DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 221 202 IR 010 377

TITLE	International Conference of Directors of National Libraries on Resource Sharing in Asia and Oceania [Proceedings] (Canberra, Australia, May 14-18, 1979). Development of Resource Sharing Networks. Networks Study No. 11.
INSTITUTION	National Library of Australia, Canberra.
REPORT NO	ISBN-0-642-99149-9
PUB DATE	79
NOTE	214p.
AVAILABLE FROM	Sales and Subscriptions Unit, National Library of Australia, Canberra, ACT 2600 ($5.75).
EDRS PRICE	MF01 Plus Postage. PC Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS	Foreign Countries; Interlibrary Loans; *Library Cooperation; *Library Networks; Library Planning; Library Role; Library Services; *National Libraries; Questionnaires; Regional Programs; *Shared Services
IDENTIFIERS	*Asia; Library Administrators; *Oceania

ABSTRACT

The proceedings of this 1979 conference on library cooperation begin with proposals for the promotion of resource sharing among the national libraries of Asia and Oceania, the text of a policy statement on the role of national and international systems as approved at a 1976 meeting of directors of national libraries held in Lausanne, and a summary listing of replies to a 1978 questionnaire prepared by the National Library of Australia on the range of responsibilities of national libraries throughout the world. Addresses presented at the conference are organized by geographical area as follows: (1) three East Asia papers from representatives of the national libraries of China, Japan, and Australia. (D.Z. Gang, M. Kishida, and T. Satoh); (2) a West Asia paper from Jordan (K. Asali); (3) three South Asia papers from Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan (K. M. Karim, R. K. Das Gupta, and N. Begg); (4) five South East Asia papers from Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand (M. H. Prakoso, D. E. K. Wijasuriya, S. Quiason, Y.-L. Wicks, and K. Gesmankit); (5) four Oceania papers from Australia, Fiji, New Zealand, and Papua New Guinea (G. Chandler, K. L. Jinna, M. Roanie, and J. Yocklunn); and (6) four European papers from librarians or directors of libraries in Finland, Italy, Norway, and Poland (E. Hakli, L. Mancusi, G. Munthe, and W. Stankiewicz). Presentations range from brief addresses on library cooperation in the Pacific Community to descriptive reports on the history and services of a particular national library. (ESR)

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National Library of Australia

Development of Resource Sharing Networks

In the framework of UNISIST (World Science Information System), NATIS (National Information Systems) and ALBIS (Australian Library Based Information System)

Networks Study No. 11

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL LIBRARIES ON RESOURCE SHARING IN ASIA AND OCEANIA

Canberra, 14-18 May 1979

PAPERS

National Library of Australia Canberra 1979

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International Conference of Directors of National Libraries on Resource Sharing in Asia and Oceania, Canberra, 1979.

International Conference of Directors of National Libraries on Resource Sharing in Asia and Oceania, Canberra, 14-18 May 1979: papers. - Canberra: National Library of Australia, 1979. - vi, 208 p.; 30 cm (Development of resource sharing networks: networks study; no. 11)

ISBN 0 642 99149 9

1. Library cooperation - Asia - Congresses. 2. Library information networks - Asia - Congresses. 3. Library cooperation - Oceanica - Congresses. 4. Library information networks - Oceanica - Congresses. 1. National Library of Australia. (Series)

021.65'095

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PREFACE

The International Conference of Directors of National Libraries on Resource Sharing in Asia and Oceania held in Canberra on 14-18 May, 1979 authorized the National Library of Australia to publish the proposals and papers as one of it Network Studies. We are pleased to make this volume available and to note how useful the Conference's resolutions will be, not only in encouraging resource sharing in Asia and Oceania but also in assisting the establishment and development of national and international focal points throughout the region.

The Conference was hosted by the Council of the National Library of Australia. Co-sponsors and participants included the national libraries of Australia, Bangladesh, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Jordan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and the Federal Republic of Germany.

Financial support was generously provided by the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), the Australian Development Assistance Bureau (ADAB), the Federal Republic of Germany, the National Library of New Zealand, and the Council of the National Library of Australia.

G. Chandler
CONFERENCE ORGANIZER

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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL LIBRARIES

ON RESOURCE SHARING IN ASIA AND OCEANIA, CANBERRA.

14-18 MAY 1979

1. GENERAL PROPOSALS

1.1. GENERAL

Governments should encourage resource sharing between National Libraries in order to promote efficiency and to foster international understanding through mutually beneficial arrangements to-

(a) improve access to national and international collections of library materials and to the bibliographical and information services based thereon.

(b) promote staff training through international staff exchanges and conferences.

(c) develop joint research and development studies in library and information science which it would not be economically feasible for each nation to undertake.

1.2. INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

Governments should enable National Libraries to promote mutually beneficial resource sharing by participating fully in-

(a) the international programs sponsored by inter-governmental organisations such as UNO, UNESCO.

(b) the international activities of non-governmental organisations such as IFLA(International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions) and in particular in IFLA'S programs for Universal Bibliographical Control (UBC) the Universal Availability of Publications (UAP) and in such technical programs as those for International Standard Book Numbers (ISBN) and for Machine Readable Cataloguing (MARC).

1.3. NATIONAL LEGISLATION

Governments should ensure that national legislation enables National Libraries to-

(a) provide leadership in national and international resource sharing whether bi-lateral, regional, continental or world-wide.

(b) develop as a basis for national and international resource sharing a comprehensive collection of national library materials.

(c) make available the national collection and bibliographical and library based information services based thereon for both national and international purposes.

(d) ensure that adequate international collections (i.e. acquired for other countries) and bibliographical and library based information services based thereon are provided (but not necessarily by the National Library itself).

1.4. NATIONAL COLLECTIONS

Governments should enable National Libraries to promote international resource sharing by making available -

(a) library materials in the national collection either by loan, exchange or through the provision of copies.

(b) bibliographical publications based on the national collection either through loan, exchange or through the provision of copies.

(c) library based information services based on the national collection in traditional or machine readable form.

1.5. INTERNATIONAL COLLECTIONS

Governments should enable National Libraries to ensure through international resource sharing-

(a) that adequate international collections of library materials are available in the humanities and the arts, the social sciences and science and technology (but not necessarily within the National Library)

(b) that adequate bibliographical and information services based on the international collections are provided in traditional or machine readable form.

(c) that adequate specialist services are provided to meet the needs of priority groups in the community, e.g. Parliament, writers, research workers of all kinds, scientists, and the handicapped, etc.

2. SPECIFIC PROPOSALS

2.1. Recognising the value and importance of resource sharing on the national, regional and international levels in improving access to library collections and to bibliographical and information services based thereon, the Conference recommends that governments of countries in Asia and Oceania give favourable consideration to specific proposals on resource sharing which may be placed before them for consideration.

2.2. Recognising the inherent benefits of staff exchange schemes, particularly at regional and international levels, for staff training purposes, the transfer of technology and expertise, as well as for promoting international understanding and goodwill, the Conference recommends that-

(a) governments of countries concerned give favourable consideration to the inclusion of staff exchange schemes at regional and international levels as an integral part of overall staff training programs and

(b) UNESCO, IFLA, IDRC or other international aid agencies provide funding to facilitate the implementation of such schemes in order to offset salary differentials, disparities in costs of living, or transportation arrangements between exchange institutions.

2.3. Recognising the increasing need for research and investigation in library and information science, the Conference recommends that National Libraries be provided with funding and staffing support to undertake such research studies in the library and information sector-

(a) at the national level

(b) at the regional and international level on a joint or cooperative basis.

2.4. Recognising the importance of National Libraries in providing leadership in the development of libraries and in national and international resource sharing, the Conference recommends that-

(a) in countries where National Libraries have not been established or clearly designated, governments of the countries concerned be invited to give urgent consideration towards their establishment or designation to carry out a leadership role.

(b) in countries where such institutions have already been established, consideration be given to the question of legislative amendment or other appropriate measures in order to strengthen the National Library's capacity for leadership.

2.5. Recognising that effective resource sharing depends ultimately on access to documents, and recognising further the limited resources of many countries in Asia and Oceania in this respect, the Conference recommends that-

(a) all National Libraries in Asia and Oceania make their national resources available for international lending in Asia and Oceania.

(b) that the National Library of Australia be invited to make available to National Libraries in Asia and Oceania the lending and photocopying services recently developed to provide a rapid service.

2.6. Recognising the value of the ISDS programme and appreciating fully the work of the International ISDS Centre and the financial support required for its continuing operation, the Conference recommends that the present method of national contributions based on the number of national serials input into the system be reviewed in favour of a more equitable system, noting in this respect the AGRIS and INIS programmes.

2.7. Recognising the importance of recording a nation's literature in its national bibliography, both for the information of its own citizens and those of other countries, the Conference recommends-

(a) that governments give such bibliographies high priority in national programs

(b) that, when no bibliographic agency exists, the government make provision for the establishment of such an agency and for legal deposit of national imprints leading to the publication of national bibliographies.

2.8. Recognizing the cultural and linguistic affinities of countries in Asia and Oceania, the Conference recommends that more effective

resource sharing might be facilitated through the development also of regional sub-groupings, such as West Asia, Central Asia, South and South-East Asia, East Asia and Oceania.

2. 9. In order to enhance and strengthen cooperation between countries in Asia and Oceania, the Conference recommends the conclusion of agreements between National Libraries to facilitate library cooperation , including the exchange of bibliographic data, government publications and other library materials.

2.10. In order to facilitate resource sharing and the free flow of information, the Conference recommends that Copyright Conventions at the national and international level should provide for fair copying in photo- or micro-form for study or research purposes.

2.11. The Conference recommends -

(a) that in areas such as Oceania there should be programs for recording oral literature and traditions, these recordings forming parallel records of each nation's oral literature, and that these records should be included in the national bibliography.

(b) that IFLA urge UNESCO to implement the resolutions of the UNESCO Seminar on Source Materials Related to Research in the Pacific Area, 1971, noting in this respect the need for cooperative effort among university, research and library organisations.

2.12. Considering the importance and value of the published works and manuscripts relating to the culture and history of countries in Asia and Oceania which are not available in the individual countries but are in repositories in other parts of the world, it is strongly urged that programs be developed to facilitate access to such materials.

2.12. In order to keep National Libraries in Asia and Oceania informed of each other's activities, the Conference recommends that Directors of National Libraries regularly exchange newsletters and other information in order to facilitate further development of resource sharing.

2.14. Recognizing the value of a continuing dialogue on resource sharing in Asia and Oceania, the Conference recommends that a meeting be held every 3 years, and that the next meeting be held in East Asia, if possible.

2.15. The Conference requests IFLA to encourage UNESCO and other relevant organizations to specifically allocate funds to support programs of resource sharing and library development in Asia and Oceania.

THE ROLE OF NATIONAL LIBRARIES IN NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL SYSTEMS; A POLICY STATEMENT APPROVED BY DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL LIBRARIES MEETING IN LAUSANNE, AUGUST 20-21, 1976*

1. SUMMARY

The need for national information programmes is first examined. Information is an increasingly important national resource, and a coordinated approach to information problems offers the best prospect for maintaining adequate national information services in a situation where user needs and material processing workloads grow faster than information agencies' budgets.

Consideration is given to the concept of a NATional Information System (NATIS) - the concept promoted by Unesco and accepted by the 1974 Intergovernmental Conference on the Planning of National Documentation, Library and Archives Infrastructures and by the Unesco General Conference, eighteenth session. NATIS comprises all the agencies, resources, processes and activities involved in the transfer of information in the nation The main component parts of NATIS and the main information flows are illustrated. Coordination within NATIS requires some organizational arrangements for the articulation and supervision of policy: the main alternative arrangements are outlined, with reference to Unesco work in this area.

The main roles of the national library in NATIS are identified as: to provide necessary central library services; to provide leadership within the library component of NATIS; and to participate actively in the planning and overall development of NATIS. In elaborating these roles it is noted that the library environment continues to change relatively rapidly in ways which increase the need for leadership and planning - to such an extent that the latter roles may now be ranked as at least as important as the role of providing necessary central library services.

---

* Paper submitted by the National Library of Canada, prepared by Mr. Roderick M. Duchesne, Assistant Director (Networks), Research & Planning Branch, National Library of Canada. A draft of this paper was discussed at a meeting of directors of national libraries in Oslo in August 1975. The present text incorporates changes suggested at that meeting, in subsequent correspondence, and approved at the August 1976 meeting. The author acknowledges gratefully the considerable assistance provided by many librarians, directors of national libraries across the world, and by Unesco.

The concept of an international information system is outlined; this is essentially the present and developing world system for information transfer. Nations have a direct interest in the efficient working of this system, partly because no individual NATIS is selfsufficient, and partly because international problems require an international approach. A number of the chief common interests of national libraries within the present international information system are examined.

In conclusion, the main current challenges to national libraries are summarized. In addition to the provision of necessary central library services, the major challenges are:

(1) To provide leadership within the library component of NATIS.

in particular, leadership in the development of national policy for libraries and in the planning and development of the nation's library services in cooperation with other agencies and bodies.

(2) To participate actively in the planning and overall development of the national information system.

Here a number of factors combine to give the national library a key position in both the Documentation, Library and Archive ('DLA') area and in NATIS as a whole. This key position gives the national library the responsibility for playing a leading role in DLA and NATIS planning.

(3) To participate in the development and improvement of the present international information system and to provide (and/or arrange) effective representation of the nation's libraries and their users at the international level.

Seven areas of immediate concern are identified - recording and exchanging of information concerning library materials; arrangements for making available library materials by loan or photocopy; retrieval of information in library materials; research and development and standards relating to the latter areas; documentation, library and archive manpower planning, education and training; liaison in NATIS planning; participation in UNISIST programmes and other international programmes concerned with information.

2. THE NATIONAL INFORMATION SYSTEM (NATIS)

2.1 The need for national information policies and programmes

Information is a key national resource and is increasing in importance. Professor Fritz Machlup calculated[1] that by 1958 the production and distribution of knowledge accounted for 29% of US gross national product, and that the information segment of the economy was then growing at the rate of 10% per year, approximately double the rate of growth of the US economy as a whole. Five years later, Gilbert Burck[2] confirmed Machlup's estimates by calculating that in 1963 the production and distribution of knowledge accounted for 33% of US gross national product. A further five years later Professor Marshak made other evaluations and several medium-term projections which showed that in 1968 the knowledge industry accounted for approaching 40% of US gross national product[3]. In view of these figures it is not surprising that it is becoming recognized that information is such an important factor in national progress and well-being that nations can no longer neglect to have national information policies. Information used to be regarded solely as a supportive element in various national programmes, for instance, economic, educational and environmental programmes. However, information itself is now emerging as a matter of national policy.

In some countries ambitious plans have been advanced in the information field. The Computerization Committee of the Japan Computer Usage Development Institute, a committee including the representation of a number of central government ministries, recently proposed[4] a major, centrally planned development called "the information society". The proposal took the form of an intermediate plan costing 1000 billion yen ($3.2 billion) over five years and a long range plan running over 14 years. The proposed expenditure for the two plans totalled 20,000 billion yen ($65 billion).

With or without major new investment of resources in the information area, a coordinated approach to information problems offers the best prospects of maintaining adequate national information services in the face of budgets which tend to grow far more slowly than the costs of meeting growing user needs and of acquiring, processing and storing mounting quantities of information materials. A number of countries - for instance, Finland[5] - have already found considerable benefit in closer cooperation and coordination of major agencies in the information area.

The need for a coordinated and well-planned approach is urgent in view of the relatively rapid growth of information needs and information materials: these needs and materials are estimated to be growing at a faster rate than the world economy:

> "Every year the scientific-technical community increases in size by about 7%, its supply of information by 11%. It is estimated that in fifteen years' time, including the foreseeable development in Third World countries, there will be 30 to 35 million scientists, economists, technicians, etc. producing information, the annual output being 12 to 14 million documents. In ten years' time the annual rate of growth (in 1957-1967: 9.5%, in 1967-1971: 10.6%) will in the scientific technical field be about 12.5% (which means at least 1.5 million more publications yearly than in the immediately preceding year). In these spheres the need of information grows at approximately the same rate as the increase in its production.
>
> "The information needs in the social, legal and cultural spheres increase at a relatively faster rate, and the structures for their satisfaction are particularly underdeveloped.
>
> "The mention of annual production may give the impression that the rhythm of obsolescence runs parallel with production, at least in the natural and technical sciences. This is not the case: in particular, the organic chemists tell us that in many cases literature dating from about 1890 is indispensable. However, even if it is considered necessary to have access to only the production of the previous twenty years, it will mean that by about 1985, in little more than ten years, something like 150 million documents will have to be held ready for access"[6].

The above quotation is drawn from a paper using estimates made before the recent slowdown in the economic growth of a number of major industrial countries. This slowdown has affected the growth of information supply and demand but does not necessarily indicate a decline in the longer term growth rate. A study by Dr. Georges Anderla has indicated that forecasters in this area have tended to be too conservative[7] and to be too influenced by temporary slowdowns[8]. According to Dr. Anderla:

> "In more concrete terms, the upward revision of estimates yielded by our earlier investigations indicates that in 1985-87, six or seven times the present volume of new information will be produced, and that the stock of information-knowledge will be about 120-150 million documents of widely varying types, though predominantly in microform. Generally speaking, therefore, expansion must be expected to continue at an annual rate of 12.5 per cent, allowing for the usual fluctuations.[9]"

Applications of advancing technology promise to increase the productivity and cost-effectiveness of information systems, but these applications typically require increased planning, liaison and coordination. Computer/communication networks serving information needs provide an example. While these networks are almost certain to play an increasingly important role in serving information needs, they typically involve heavy investment of resources, and much cooperative planning and systems development over extended periods of time.

In an increasingly interdependent and international world, international cooperation is required for effective treatment of many information problems. Well organized national arrangements provide the basis of international negotiation and cooperation. An important reason for engaging in national information programmes and national information system planning is to prepare the ground for international cooperation from which all cooperating nations can gain.

2.2 The concept of NATIS

The concept of NATIS was generally introduced in the documents of the Unesco Intergovernmental conference on the planning of national documentation, library and archives infrastructures:[10]

> "The precise form and character of the national information system (NATIS), composed of a number of sub-systems will vary in different countries, but coordination of all its elements must be the goal."
>
> "The elements that should constitute NATIS are all services involved in the provision of information for all sectors of the community and for all categories of user. The task of NATIS is to ensure that all engaged in political, economic, scientific, educational, social or cultural activities receive the necessary information enabling them to render their fullest contribution to the whole community"[11].

The Conference accepted the concept and made a number of recommendations to assist effective implementation of it[12]. The general concept was subsequently considered by the 18th General Conference of Unesco, which invited the Director-General, in drawing up a long-term programme of action to take into account the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Conference on the Planning of National Documentation, Library and Archives Infrastructures, the UNISIST programme and other relevant programmes, inviting Member States to take suitable action to create or improve appropriate national infrastructures of documentation services, libraries and archives, in accordance with the economic, social and cultural development plans, and its communication policy, and invited the Director-General:

(a) to promote the general concept of over-all planning of national infrastructures of documentation, libraries and archives and to invite Member States to take appropriate steps to create or improve their national information systems;

(b) to assist Member States, especially the developing countries, to plan and develop their national infrastructures or national information systems (NATIS) in such a way as to ensure co-ordination at the national level and to prepare the bases for active participation in world information systems;

(c) to draw up a long-term programme of action of this end, and submit it to the nineteenth session of the General Conference;

(d) to take into account, in drawing up this programme, the recommendations approved by the Intergovernmental Conference on the Planning of National Documentation, Library and Archives Infrastructures, the UNISIST programme, and other relevant programmes developed by Unesco and other international organizations, taking the necessary measures to avoid the development of overlapping activities;

(e) to take all necessary steps to ensure the most effective implementation of action in support of NATIS within the Programme and Budget for 1975-1976."[13]

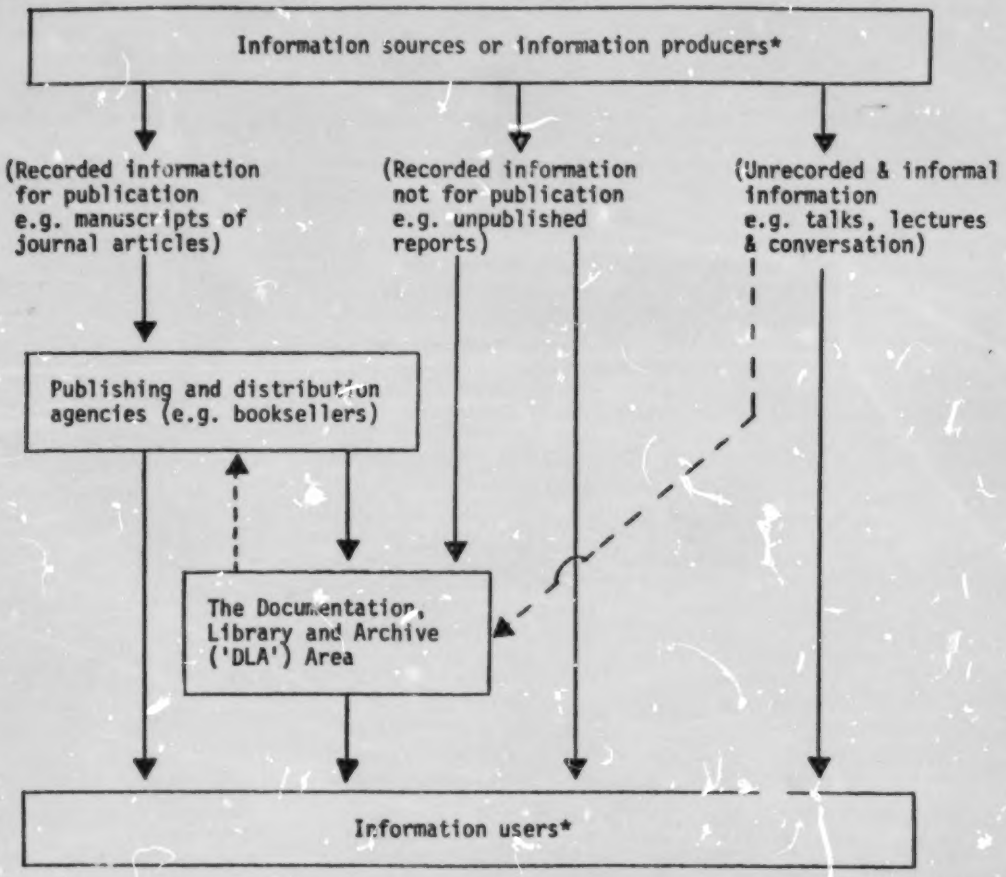
NATIS relates to all the agencies, resources, processes and activities involved in the transfer of information in the nation. Figure 1 illustrates the flow of information within a nation. As recorded in the footnote to the figure, "information users" are frequently also "information sources or information producers"; in fact, none of the information flow functions in the figure are the exclusive domain of any one organization, or type of organization. A library fulfils functions in the Documentation, Library and Archive ('DLA') area, but it may in addition perform any of the other functions illustrated. For instance, it may:

* Act as an information user
  - e.g. in compiling an answer to a reference enquiry.

* Act as an information source or producer
  - e.g. in making literature and information available to its users, and authoring works such as catalogues, guides, etc.

* Act as a publisher
  - e.g. publishing catalogues, guides or works relating to library science.

Fig. 1 : THE FLOW OF INFORMATION WITHIN A NATION


Information sources or information producers*
(Recorded information for publication e.g. manuscripts of journal articles)
(Recorded information not for publication e.g. unpublished reports)
(Unrecorded & informal information e.g. talks, lectures & conversation)
Publishing and distribution agencies (e.g. booksellers)
The Documentation, Library and Archive ('DLA') Area
Information users*

* Users of information are frequently also information producers; several examples are:

1. A research organization using data and information from elsewhere to further research which leads to new knowledge and information.
2. An educational establishment using literature and experience gained elsewhere to pass on to students.
3. An abstracting organization producing abstracts from journal articles.

While single organizations can in this way fulfil multiple functions within NATIS, it is helpful for the purposes of exposition to separate the various functions and to examine the principal types of organizations associated with each function. Figure 1 identifies the following functional groups:

(1) Information sources or information producers

In the case of recorded information these may be personal or corporate authors, cartographers, composers, etc. In the case of unrecorded and informal information, these may be lecturers, speakers at meetings or conferences, or conversing individuals.

The information produced may be 'primary' - being presented for the first time in, say, a patent, journal article, book or film. Alternatively, the information may be 'secondary' - being re-presented in some compressed or consolidated form, such as an abstract. Further distinctions are sometimes drawn[14], classifying materials such as bibliographies as 'tertiary'.

The information may be transmitted in many forms. Recorded information is conventionally transmitted using materials such as journal articles, books, theses, reports, microforms, music, maps, and audiovisual materials. Less conventional transmission media are electronic media (as for Cathode Ray Terminal - 'CRT' - display of computer data), magnetic tapes and punched cards. Recorded information also includes unpublished reports and the semi-formal material which is sometimes called 'shadow literature' - for instance, internal memoranda and files of correspondence, notes of meetings and like material.

(2) Publishing and distributing agencies.

'Publishing and distributing' is here interpreted widely, covering the publishing and distributing of all the forms of recorded information noted above. Many organizations 'publish' or 'distribute' in this wide interpretation - not only book publishers, booksellers and state publishing and distributing organizations - but also universities, research associations, academic institutes, professional bodies, commercial and industrial companies, film and phonorecord producers and distributors, microform publishing agencies such as University Microfilms Inc., and organizations publishing in magnetic tape or electronic form (e.g. Chemical Abstracts tapes; MEDLINE enquiry services). These examples are by no means exhaustive.

(3) The Documentation, Library and Archive ('DLA') area.

Documentation agencies include information centres, data centres, referral centres, clearing houses. Libraries include special libraries (e.g. company libraries), university, public and national libraries. Archives include national, state/ provincial, municipal, local and private archives.

(4) Information users.

These include government agencies, institutions, commercial agencies, private individuals, foreign agencies. Virtually all "information sources or information producers" are also information users, since hardly anyone produces new information without using existing information.

2.3 Organizational aspects

Efficient and effective operation and development of national information systems require leadership and planning at the national level. The DLA area is, by virtue of its inclusion of the largest government agencies concerned with information, bound to have a leading role to play in public formulation and planning at national, international or professional levels. In countries where publishing and distribution of information materials are largely government-controlled, the government-controlled publishing and distribution agencies will also have a very important leadership and planning role within NATIS.

Efficient working of NATIS will not be achieved unless the major components of the system work in harmony. This implies the working out and common acceptance of a national information policy concerning the roles and functions of the different components and agencies within the system. This policy has vertical and horizontal aspects. The vertical aspects of policy concern the functions to be performed by agencies at different levels of government (e.g. supranational, national, provincial/state, municipal or local). The horizontal aspects concern the relative roles of different government bodies at a given level of government, and the role of information agencies in the private sector of the economy. The latter agencies include private sector publishers, booksellers, abstracting and indexing organizations, and not-for-profit and commercial information services such as the Systems Development Corporation's information services in the US.

Organizational arrangements are required for the working out, articulation, implementation, and supervision of national information policy; these arrangements will vary between nations. Nations with well established government agencies

concerned with information are likely to make use of these existing agencies, strengthening the arrangements for co-ordinating them and expanding their planning functions.

A number of nations are likely to coordinate their central government DLA agencies in a relatively direct manner by having them all report to a single minister. This arrangement may be particularly appropriate in smaller countries without large and long-established separate documentation, library and archive agencies in the government sector. In this case the central government ministry administering the DLA area will still need organizational mechanisms for consulting important interest groups such as the educational, industrial and publishing groups. Nations with large and long-established separate central government documentation, library and archive agencies may place greater reliance on some form of inter-agency committee structure in order to achieve closer coordination of these agencies.

In choosing organizational arrangements for coordinating central government DLA agencies, a basic choice appears to lie in the degree of reliance placed in committees - a choice between:

(1) Less organizational integration of central government DLA agencies and more reliance on inter-agency coordinating committees.

(2) More organizational integration and less reliance on inter-agency coordinating committees.

In the first case, the committee scheme proposed by J.H. d'Olier may be particularly appropriate:

> "At the top: interministerial committee or council of ministers. Will meet once a year.
> Ministerial subordinate body (could be set up jointly with some other authority): high-level committee of seven or eight members (including three experts). Will meet first to define main objectives, and then again at the time of the budget.
> Commission responsible for detailed planning and implementation: group of specialists comprising ministerial representatives, users, information specialists (this commission will provide detailed guidance in regard to international relations). Will meet once or twice a month.
>
> To ensure the functioning of these various bodies, there would be a permanent secretariat or co-ordinating unit, with responsibility for the execution of the committee's decisions.[15]"

In the second case some modifications to this committee scheme may be appropriate. For instance, if all the central government DLA agencies report to a single minister there may not be a need for an interministerial committee.

M. d'Olier's committee scheme was proposed for library and documentation service planning and development, but it could be used for the purposes of overall planning and coordination of all major central government information agencies. Suitable representation in the committee structure could be given to the DLA and government publishing/information distribution agencies. The latter representation could be appropriately strong in those countries where government agencies publish and distribute a high proportion of the information used in the country. M. d'Olier's committee scheme is also essentially compatible with the existence of a separate government policy and planning commission without executive authority such as the US National Commission on Libraries and Information Science: a commission of this type could carry out a high proportion of the non-executive policy formulation, consultation and planning functions of the proposed committee structure and would be represented at each of the levels in this structure.

Whatever organizational approach is adopted, policy has to take account of the information needs of the nation, and the organization framing national information policy needs to have the means of establishing these needs. Advisory bodies are a widely used mechanism for consulting important groups. Suitable advisory bodies will usually have a part to play in the information policy area whatever the precise form of the national information policy-making organizational structure because they facilitate discussion of policy on a reasonably representative basis.

3. THE ROLES OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY WITHIN NATIS

The national library has three main roles within NATIS:

(1) To provide necessary central library services.

(2) To provide leadership within the library component of NATIS.

(3) To participate actively in the planning and overall development of NATIS.

These roles are outlined in the next three sections. These outlines assume relatively full development of the range of national library services and functions. It is, however, recognized that many countries do not have single national libraries fulfilling all the suggested functions. In some countries several agencies collectively fulfil these functions; in some countries no agency yet fulfills certain of the suggested functions.

3.1 The provision of necessary central library services

This role has virtually universal acceptance and is basic to the definition of a national library adopted for statistical purposes by the 1970 Unesco General Conference:

> "National libraries: libraries which, irrespective of their title, are responsible for acquiring and conserving copies of all significant publications published in the country and functioning as a "deposit" library, either by law or under other arrangements. They will also normally perform some of the following functions: produce a national bibliography; hold and keep up to date a large and representative collection of foreign literature including books about the country; act as a national bibliographic information centre; compile union catalogues; publish the retrospective national bibliography. Libraries which may be called "national" but whose functions do not correspond to the above definition should not be placed in the "national library" category.[16]".

This is far from a complete enumeration of the major practical functions being undertaken by leading national libraries. Leading national libraries act as central and directing nodes in their countries' interlending, bibliographic service, information service, material collection, and material conservation cooperative networks. They also act as nodes in an international library cooperative network. These wider roles lead national libraries to offer additional central services. Some of the most important central services not already enumerated in the Unesco definition are:

(1) Bibliographic services

- to assist libraries in the nation to acquire, process and make information materials available, for instance by supplying catalogue data in card and/or computer readable form.

- to act as the centre for the national contribution to Universal Bibliographic Control (UBC) and related programmes. Examples of the latter programmes include the International Serials Data System, international MARC exchange schemes, and materials numbering schemes such as the International Standard Book Number scheme.

- to provide other necessary central national bibliographic services to bring bibliographic information to organizations and persons requiring it, for example Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI) services.

(2) Lending Services

- to act as a national centre for foreign lending and borrowing and to provide necessary central national lending services. A well-known example of the latter national lending services are those provided by the British Library Lending Division.

(3) Information, reference and referral services

- to act as a library of last resort for reference information, and to provide necessary central reference and referral services.

(4) Collections

- to acquire and maintain the collections necessary to support the services noted above, to provide arrangements for exchange of material between libraries within the nation, and to enter into and arrange exchanges of material with foreign libraries and agencies.

(5) Standards

- to promote library, bibliographic and communication standards needed to further the above programmes.

(6) International representation

- to provide or arrange adequate representation of the nation's library interests at the international level, for instance representation on international committees and working groups.

- to negotiate, or play a leading role in the negotiation, of international agreements needed to further all the above programmes.

The central services listed above are some of the most important services not already enumerated in the Unesco definition. Across the world individual national libraries have additional functions and vary widely in the range and orientation of the services they offer. The National Library of Singapore, for instance, acts both as a national library and as a public library[17]. In Egypt, the national library has a similar dual national library and public library role[18]. Emphasis on service to children is particularly strong at the Botswana National Library, one of the four principal aims of which is: "... to provide simple, attractive reading materials for children, to encourage them to maintain and improve their standards of literacy, to develop the habit of reading both for pleasure and for instruction ..."[19] In Peru, the national library maintains a centre for professional training in librarianship[20]. In the USSR, library service has a more political orientation: "To publicise the advances of socialist development in the conditions of the multi-nation Soviet state forms the main task of library service to the people"[21].

3.2 Leadership of the library component of NATIS

While the definition of a national library for statistical purposes is focussed on the provision of necessary central library services, national libraries have long been recognized as having a leadership and planning role with respect to the library services of their respective nations. Dr. K.W. Humphreys, in probably the single most quoted article concerning national library functions, described this leadership role in the following terms:

> "The national library should be the prime mover in library matters and should be expected to be the leading library in all fields. The national librarian, too, should play a central role in all systematic planning of a country's library services."[22]

In the present century the need for national-level leadership and planning has increased markedly in many fields, including the library and information field. Many factors have contributed, and continue to contribute, to changes in this direction. These factors include the increasing complexity of the modern world the increasing emphasis on planning to reconcile economic, social and environmental desiderata; the general increase in the scale of major projects and investments, giving rise to increased needs for planning to minimize risks and to bring many sub-projects together; and the general lengthening of the period over which major investments are implemented and bear fruit, which also increases planning problems and the need for planning.

Factors such as these have caused very considerable changes in the environment in which libraries operate, so much so that the leadership and planning roles of national libraries are now at least as important as their role of providing central services. The emphasis has shifted in recent years from thinking mainly in terms of individual libraries to thinking in terms of complete national and international networks or systems of libraries and information services. In this context the influence of the national library on national and international library system development is clearly of major significance. Other more specifically library factors also contribute in this direction. Almost everywhere across the world libraries are under increasing pressure, with costs and user needs increasing considerably faster than library budgets. These pressures increase the need for planning, cooperation and leadership. New applications of advancing technology may assist libraries to cope more effectively with the growing pressures and challenges - but, as noted in section 2 above, these applications themselves make planning and leadership demands.

In practical terms the two principal planning and leadership challenges within the library component of NATIS are:

(1) To monitor the nation's library services and basic library provision and resources in order promptly to identify existing and projected problems and opportunities for improving library services. To assist planning, this monitoring should take trends and projections into account.

(2) To initiate appropriate action to meet problems and grasp opportunities as these are identified.

The monitoring of the nation's library services has several important foci:

(1) Library user needs and standards of service

- identification of unfilled or inadequately filled user needs, and identification of the means of tailoring existing services to accord more closely with user needs.

- adequacy of the national arrangements for acquiring, making available and conserving needed materials and information.

(2) Standards of library provision

- adequacy of library finance, resources, accommodation and staffing.

(3) Library manpower and professional arrangements.

- adequacy (existing and projected) of library manpower supply, and of the standards of training and other professional arrangements in the library field.

(4) Bibliographic and other technical standards

- adequacy of standards required to support and develop needed systems, e.g. cataloguing, subject description, and communication standards.

(5) Legal aspects

- adequacy of legal provisions relating to library organizations, operations and services.

- adequacy of legislation in relation to the differing interests of library users, authors, publishers and private sector interests.

The initiation of appropriate action to meet problems and seize opportunities as these are identified may involve a whole range of actions depending upon the circumstances. Some actions which may be appropriate in given circumstances are:

(1) Modification or ennancement of the national library's own service programmes.

(2) Application to appropriate authorities and/or funding agencies for funds for new national programmes.

(3) Conferences or meetings of libraries and other organizations concerned with specific problems or possibilities (e.g. library network developments).

(4) Promotion of better utilization of resources through promotion of shared resources, shared processing, inter-lending and other cooperative arrangements.

(5) Action to create or amend necessary standards, guide-lines, and legislation.

(6) International agreements, for example bilateral or wider exchange agreements.

3.3 Active participation in NATIS planning and development

As was noted in section 2, there is need for a coordinated national approach to national information problems, systems, operations and resources - and the main national government agencies concerned with information are best placed to provide the national-level leadership necessary for the achievement of this coordination. Efforts towards coordination might with advantage begin within the national government information agency area, since the national government will be much better able to deal effectively with other parts of NATIS when it has adequately coordinated its own information agencies.

For a variety of reasons, the main national-level DLA agencies offer the greatest scope for coordination. There is considerable similarity in the services offered by the different agencies and they share many of the same procedures and problems. All have substantial acquisition, recording, indexing, organization, and storage operations. All have forms of reference/information service; libraries and documentation agencies have substantial bibliographic and lending services; and libraries and archives have substantial conservation functions. There is also considerable similarity in the range of information issues and problems faced by the DLA agencies:

* the role of the national government agencies vis-à-vis agencies at other governmental levels, and the private sector.

* the degree of national self-sufficiency to be maintained and the degree of regional (subnational) self-sufficiency and geographic decentralization.

* the mode of administration of information resources and systems

  - degree of dependence on legislation and formal procedures.

  - the extent to which separate administrative units are required for separate subject groups of information - for instance for Scientific & Technical Information ('STI') - or for separate language groups.

* the appropriate division and treatment of security-classified information and proprietary information.

* the degree of standardization appropriate across the DLA area and the extent to which separate standards are appropriate in certain areas (say the STI area) or in relation to special language or local needs.

Above all, it is important that the national government should have one overall policy and plan for a multi-disciplinary, integrated, national information system - rather than two or more separate policies and plans. Where there is a need for the coordination of national government information policies and plans, the national library is (in many nations) well situated to initiate liaison and planning work oriented towards achieving the necessary degree of coordination. In fact, for several reasons it is necessary to give the national library the legal authority to play a key role in relation to the DLA sector and to NATIS planning. The two main reasons for this are:

(1) It is the most economic arrangement

The legal deposit function of the national library obliges it to deal with the total national output of publications. This comprehensive task cannot be shared with other organizations without severe risk of duplication of work and/or gaps in coverage.

(2) It is the most rational arrangement

The national library is the chief institution concerned with all aspects of libraries and librarianship in the nation. It also has the responsibility for ensuring that all the interests of the libraries of the nation and of their users are as adequately represented at the international level as economic and other circumstances permit. It is thus the organization best qualified to promote research and studies and to propose standards designed to assist the integration of libraries and similar institutions into an efficient national information network providing effective service corresponding to national needs.

It is true that the situation of individual national libraries varies widely from country to country and that it is difficult to generalize. Some national libraries have wide mandates; others have narrower ones. However, it is essential that the legal and actual situation within the national information network be such as to allow the national library to play its necessary part effectively: a part that in fact no other organization can fill.

Where there is a need for increased coordination of national government information policies and plans, the national library should play its part in organizing systematic consultation between the main national government DLA agencies. In co-operation with these agencies the library might initiate a study to report with recommendations on the desirability and feasibility of improving the coordination of national information services with specific reference to:

(1) The degree of coordination of DLA systems and services which is desirable and feasible at the national level.

(2) The adequacy of present arrangements for coordination of DLA systems and services at the national level.

(3) The existing and desirable relationships between national level government DLA agencies and other NATIS agencies - for instance province/state DLA agencies, private sector agencies, and the agencies of other national governments and of international organizations.

(4) Immediate problems in need of attention - possibly matters concerning copyright, authors' rights, or gaps in services and provision.

4. NATIONAL LIBRARIES WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL INFORMATION SYSTEM

4.1 The concept of an international information system

It is important to set individual national information systems in an international context for two main reasons:

(1) No NATIS is self-sufficient
Small nations generally depend a great deal on information generated or published outside their borders; world superpowers may appear to be relatively self-sufficient but their worldwide interests imply that they too are dependent on information from other countries and from organizations beyond their national borders.

(2) International information problems require international approaches
This is essentially the raison d'être of the international programmes in the information area of Unesco (for instance UNISIST); of other specialized agencies of the United Nations (for instance, the International Nuclear Information System - INIS); of international professional bodies such as the International Federation of Library Associations (for instance the Universal Bibliographic Control programme with Unesco support) and the Fédération Internationale de Documentation (FID); and of international political institutions such as the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA).

The world's information agencies, their resources, processes and activities may be viewed as an international information system. "System" is used here to indicate the complex interdependence of these agencies, resources, processes and activities. While a number of the present arrangements for world information transfer are decidedly less than ideal, it is helpful to conceive these as part of a complex unity or "system" in order to focus discussion and effort on the working of the system as a whole. Following the same mode of thinking, economists frequently refer to the world economy or world economic system. The international information system is a similar type of systems or network concept and is not necessarily associated with any one set pattern of world arrangements. In a rapidly changing world any one pattern of arrangements tends to be quickly outdated while the systems or network concept remains permanently useful.

As a system or network concept the international information system concept resembles the world science information system concept of UNISIST. However, as elaborated in the 1971 study report[23], the UNISIST concept was narrower in that it was limited to science information and in that it appeared to take a more restricted view of the agencies making up the world information system. Archives, for instance, figured neither in the index to the UNISIST study report nor in the report's otherwise relatively comprehensive figures[24].

It may be noted that UNISIST's world science information system concept is separable from the UNISIST administrative structure comprising the UNISIST' Executive Office, Advisory Committee, Steering Committee and Intergovernmental Conference. In similar manner, the international information system concept does not have to be associated with a particular administrative structure. Nations may cooperate within the international information system in whatever groupings and at whatever organizational level is appropriate to the problem or common interest at hand. Within this system it is possible to envisage a nation participating simultaneously in a truly world interlending system, in cooperative indexing/abstracting arrangements within some language group of nations, and in bilateral resource sharing agreements with neighbouring nations. At any point in time any of these arrangements might involve the meeting of technical specialists to tackle technical problems and/or - as appropriate - the meeting of persons of high government rank to deal with policy matters.

4.2 National libraries within the present international information system

In keeping with the pragmatic nature of the present international information system, national libraries should seek to further their common interests in whatever groupings and at whatever levels are appropriate to given interests. These common interests are many; some of the chief ones are noted below:

(1) Improvement in world arrangements for recording and exchanging information concerning library materials.

National libraries have special responsibility for what may be termed 'national bibliographic control': national arrangements for the recording of library materials and for the distribution of these records within the nation. Beyond this, national libraries have a direct interest in the exchange of bibliographic records with other countries so that their nation may obtain the benefits of awareness of material published elsewhere and of the use of records created elsewhere. From this it follows that national libraries have a direct interest in the international programme for Universal Bibliographic Control (UBC) and related projects, for instance:

* promotion of improved national arrangements for the production and distribution of national bibliographic records - for instance by commencement of the production and publication of national bibliographies in nations not yet producing national bibliographies, and by improvements in existing national bibliographies.

* the International Serials Data System (ISDS).

* the International Standard Book Number (ISBN) scheme.

* National Machine Readable Cataloguing (MARC) projects and associated exchange arrangements.

* agreement and implementation of relevant bibliographic standards - for instance the implementation of the existing international standard bibliographic descriptions for monographs and serials ISBD(M) and ISBD(S) - and the agreement and implementation of similar standards covering other categories of material.

Work concerning UBC is in its early states, and much remains to be done. None of the schemes and projects mentioned above have been implemented on a completely worldwide basis. Much work needs to be done to create the standards which are

fundamental to international recording and exchange systems - for instance - international standards for the bibliographic description or cataloguing of all types of library materials, for transliteration between languages, alphabets and scripts, and for exchange standards for computer-readable records. While worldwide agreement and cooperation remains the ideal, worthwhile advances may be made by agreements and by increased cooperation between countries with heavy involvement in programmes and projects in the UBC area - for instance national MARC projects.

(2) Improvement in world arrangements for making available library materials by loan or photocopy.

At the 1975 IFLA General Council Meeting, a resolution of the IFLA Committee on International Lending phrased the need for improvement in this area in the following terms:

"With a view to improving the international availability of publications by loan or photocopy, and increasing the speed of transactions, IFLA urges the acceptance by libraries of the principle that items should be sent and returned by the fastest possible method.

As an essential element in any program of national and international planning, and as a natural concomitant of Universal Bibliographic Control, efforts should be made both within each country and between countries to improve access to publications, by increasing the availability and speed of interlending services and by developing simple and efficient procedures. The ultimate aim should be to ensure that all individuals throughout the world should be able to obtain for personal use any publication, wherever or whenever published, either in original or in copy."[25]

National libraries generally have responsibility for organizing their national interlending systems and for centralizing interlibrary loans with libraries abroad. National libraries therefore have a direct interest in improving the international availability of publications by loan or photocopy.

(3) Improvement in world arrangements for retrieval of information in library materials - including indexing, abstracting, subject cataloguing, classification and translation.

The increasing quantities of information and documents being produced, and the increasing specialization of library and information users, appear certain to ensure that the selection of information will be an increasingly critical constraint on the achievement and maintenance of adequate information systems.

International selection facilities would be improved if some form(s) of standard subject codes or descriptors (for example, Subject-field Reference Codes or UDC class numbers) were present on all records generated within, say, the developing MARC exchange network. This would be a very useful advance, but would still leave certain important problems untouched. A particular problem in the indexing and abstracting areas is the lack of commonly observed standards for presentation and exchange of abstracts and indexes. Examples of the lack of standards in this area are the lack of standardization in subject approach, lack of standard journal citation formats, and lack of standard content designation for computer-readable records relating to documentation. Language barriers restrict the flow of information and the need for translation facilities is likely to increase as publishing spreads more evenly across the globe. Translation is costly and there is scope for international cooperation to increase the availability of items in translation.

While the interlending, UBC and retrieval areas outlined above are important, they are be no means the only areas of common interest between national libraries within the present international information system. Additional common interests include:

(4) Research and development and standards to promote more effective arrangements in the above areas.

A growing number of national libraries are involved in the nascent international MARC network. These libraries have a direct interest in cooperative planning of the development of the network. One common interest[26] is to establish current plans so that network participants and the library systems they serve know the number, characteristics and other pertinent matters (for instance, price and conditions of availability) concerning records which are currently available or will be so within, say, five years. Another common interest is to transform the present bilateral exchange orientation of the network to a more multilateral exchange orientation.

At the same time important developments are taking place in the digital communications environment, for example the spread of packet switching networks, and there is the prospect that various national libraries will achieve closer and more effective links between their computer-readable data bases and union catalogues. At present, these links are made in a somewhat cumbersome way by shipment of data on magnetic tapes. In view of the longterm nature of the computer system development plans of a number of national libraries, it is possible that it would be timely to examine the means of interfacing the computer systems they are developing and of promoting increasing cooperation between national libraries actively involved in the EDP area.

On a more general level, national libraries have a direct interest in promoting the creation and implementation of standards required in relation to international interlending, recording and exchange of material - particularly, as mentioned in subsection (1) above, those pertinent to international schemes such as Universal Bibliographic Control (UBC), the International Serials Data System (ISDS) and the nascent international MARC network. Present arrangements for the agreement and implementation of standards are far from ideal. At present, for instance, there is more than one international body issuing library standards: there are both ISO and IFLA standards. Also the creation of standards in the library area could almost certainly be speeded up, especially if the new arrangements depended less heavily on the spare-time activity of heavily-committed individuals. Future work in the library standards area would almost certainly be far faster and more effective if there was one single adequately funded and staffed standards organization concerned with these standards, and if there was a clearer delineation of the respective functions in the standards area of ISO and IFLA.

(5) Documentation, library and archive manpower planning, education and training.

An adequate supply of qualified staff is essential for the advancement of both national and international programmes in the information field. Within their respective nations, national libraries have a direct and obvious interest in ensuring that there is an adequate supply of qualified staff to support national information services and programmes.

At the international level, practical programmes of cooperation (such as the IFLA/Unesco programme for Universal Bibliographic Control) will be severely hindered if the trained manpower to carry them out is not available. This point is most easily appreciated in the context of countries without well-developed information professions. For countries in the latter situation, the attainment of adequate numbers of staff with the necessary basic training knowledge and experience will be a very high priority.

Beyond the attainment within each nation of adequate levels of staff with the necessary basic qualifications, there is a need to review international arrangements for training and research in information. In the increasingly international and complex world of information networks, for instance, there appears to be a need for courses, training and development work organized at the international level. It is possible to envisage some form of Higher Institute for Information Sciences and Technology. This would be an organization of international standing operating at post-university level under the auspices of a suitable international body. The Institute's staff could be a small number of professors/research workers employed on a continuing

basis and able to call on outside expert collaboration as required. The main functions of the Institute could be: the training of senior managers; the training of highly skilled senior systems personnel; the advanced training of teachers; and the support and/or actual execution of relevant research and development activity. Dr. G. Anderla has outlined[27] in more detail the functions and concept of an Institute of this kind.

(6) NATIS planning.

National libraries engaged in national information system planning have a common interest in liaison, especially concerning common planning problems and the interface between their individual national information system and the interface between these and the wider international information system. Treatment of certain NATIS planning matters may be assisted by examination and discussion in an international context: for instance, NATIS planning methodology, planning of professional education and training, planning the application of information technology to documentation library and archive services, and examination and discussion of legal aspects of NATIS including copyright.

(7) Participation in UNISIST programmes and other international programmes concerned with information.

All of the common interest areas listed above are included in some form within UNISIST information policy objectives, and national libraries have a strong common interest in furthering UNISIST programmes. In many cases national libraries act as "national focal points" for the guidance, stimulation and coordination of the national implementation of these programmes. Primary UNISIST policy objective areas, as listed in April 1974, are:[28]

* Primary communications, libraries and translations
* Secondary services and systems
  - abstracting and indexing services; information analysis and data compilation; specialized foci (e.g. scientific societies)
* Needs and gaps in national services
* Networking and technological facilities

* Support activities
  - standards; education and training; information research and development

* Economic, financial and legal problems

* Aid to developing countries

It is readily apparent from this list that UNISIST programmes touch virtually all the most important current matters of concern within the present international information system - except matters beyond the science area and matters relating to archives.

Other international programmes concerned with information include the programmes of the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA), the International Council on Archives (ICA), the Fédération Internationale de Documentation (FID), The International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU), and a number of specialized systems such as the International Nuclear Information System (INIS). A newly proposed system presently under design and likely to be of considerable future importance is DEVSIS, the proposed international information system in the field of economic and social development co-sponsored by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), the International Labour Office (ILO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and Unesco[29].

5. CONCLUSIONS: CURRENT CHALLENGES TO NATIONAL LIBRARIES

Paul Berry phrased the challenge facing national libraries in the following terms:

> "National libraries will certainly continue to play a significant cultural and educational role in the societies in which they exist. The question for the future is whether the role will be central or subsidiary; whether active or passive; whether progressive or vestigial. Can national libraries really meet the information needs of their constituents? Can they adapt to changes in needs and to changes in technologies? In some instances the changes may be forced upon them from the outside if they do not change themselves; in some instances they will be by-passed as other institutions are established to satisfy current needs; in many instances, hopefully, the national libraries will be the initiators of changes and will anticipate both needs and solutions."[30]

In addition to the challenge of maintaining, improving, adapting and extending - as required - effective central library services, national libraries face very considerable challenges within their respective national information systems (NATIS) and within the international information system. The concepts of NATIS and of an international information system have been outlined in the body of this paper. The major challenges are:

5.1 To provide leadership within the library component of NATIS

Major tasks in this area include:

(1) Leadership in the development of national policy for libraries. A number of aspects to be considered in framing this policy are:

- the adequacy (existing and projected) of the nation's library resources and services in relation to user needs.
- promotion of better utilization of resources through shared resources, shared processing, interlending and other cooperative arrangements.
- the relative roles of different levels of government and of private sector agencies.
- legal aspects, including the adequacy of legislation relating to library services and operations and the means of reconciling the differing interests of library users, authors, publishers and private sector interests.
- management statistics and standards for monitoring library provision, performance and trends.
- bibliographic and technical standards for meeting user needs effectively and for the promotion of cooperation and sharing between libraries.
- maintenance of adequate levels of library research and development, including assessments of user needs.
- achievement of a satisfactory rate of implementation of cost-effective new techniques and technology.
- the adequacy (existing and projected) of library manpower supply, and of the standards of training and other professional arrangements in the library field.

(2) Planning and development of the nation's library services in cooperation with other agencies and bodies, for instance - other levels of government, organizations concerned with professional bodies, and user groups. Practical aspects of this planning and development include:

(a) Monitoring of the nation's library services and basic library provision in order promptly to identify existing and projected problems and opportunities for improving library services.

- for example the monitoring of library user needs and other aspects of library service noted above as relevant to the framing of national policy for libraries.

(b) Initiation of appropriate action to meet problems and grasp opportunities as these are identified.

- some actions which may be appropriate in given circumstances are modification or enhancement of the national library's own service programmes; application to appropriate authorities and/or funding agencies for funds for new national programmes; conferences or meetings of libraries and other organizations concerned with specific problems or possibilities (e.g. library network development); promotion of better utilization of resources through promotion of shared resources, shared processing, interlending and other cooperative arrangements; action to create or amend necessary standards and guidelines; and international agreements, for example bilateral or wider exchange agreements.

5.2 <u>To participate actively in the planning and overall development of the national information system</u>

A number of factors give the national library a central position in relation to NATIS planning, and planning in the Documentation, Library and Archive ('DLA') area. These factors include the national library's leadership of the library component of NATIS, the size and comprehensive nature of the services and resources of this component of NATIS, and the size and importance of the national library itself in comparison with other government agencies in the information area. While maintaining close cooperation with other government agencies, the national library could take a leading role in DLA area and NATIS planning. The national library might, for example, initiate consultation between the main national-level DLA government agencies with respect to this planning. This

consultation might firstly be directed to aspects of national information policy: the type of tasks and aspects detailed in section 5.1 above but in this case relating to NATIS as a whole rather than only the library component of NATIS. Secondly, consultation might address the adequacy of organizational arrangements for framing and administering national information policy. Thirdly, the adequacy of coordination within NATIS as a whole and within the DLA area in particular might be considered Section 3.3 outlines the terms of reference of a possible study directed towards investigating the desirability and feasibility of improving coordination of national information services. Where greater coordination is desirable, this might first be effected in the DLA area as a first step to wider coordination within NATIS as a whole.

5.3 To participate in the development and improvement of the international information system, and to provide (and/or arrange) effective representation of the nation's libraries and their users at the international level

A number of areas within the present international information system are of special immediate concern to national libraries:

(1) Improvement in world arrangements for recording and exchanging information concerning library materials.

(2) Improvement in world arrangements for making library materials available by loan or photocopy.

(3) Improvement in worl arrangements for retrieval of information of library materials - including indexing, abstracting, subject cataloguing, classification, and translation.

(4) Research and development and standards to promote more effective arrangments in the above areas.

(5) Documentation, library and archive manpower planning, education and training.

(6) Liaison in NATIS planning.

(7) Participation in UNISIST programmes and other international programmes concerned with information.

In elaborating these areas in the text it is noted that effective comprehensive worldwide arrangements are generally the ideal. However, worthwhile improvements can be made in specific areas in smaller groups of nations which share a strong common interest in a given specific area. Common interests are likely to be strong between national libraries with a high level of (potential) information or document interchange; ongoing and similar or comparable research and development projects (for instance automation and MARC projects); active participation in the UNISIST programme for international interlinkage; and ongoing NATIS planning.

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NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

Summary of the Replies for 1978 Questionnaires on the Role of National Libraries

Authority

The Authority for each library to provide national library services was act of parliament or legislature (32 countries), ministerial or cabinet decision (18 countries), common acceptance (3 countries), on the authority of a university (1 country), other authorities (2).

Most directors of national libraries are responsible to a minister or secretary of state (28 countries) others are responsible to the parliament or legislature (2 countries), a governing body (6 countries), the head of a department of the central government (11 countries) and other authorities (4).

National Collections

Comprehensive national collections of the following materials were maintained by countries as follows: printed literature (47), maps (41), films (15), video records (12), musical scores (34), government archives (4), Sound recordings (25), pictures and photographs (27), private manuscripts (30), government archives (6).

Some countries also indicated that they maintained comprehensive national collections of educational kits, incunabula, coins and medals, art objects, stone inscriptions, palm leaves and microforms.

Principal collections of printed literature were maintained in the following subject areas: Bibliography and generalities (41), general science and technology (21), medical/biological sciences (19), physical sciences (21), general social sciences (34), education (26), law (24), official publications (31), humanities (39), arts (35), literature (27), music (28), area studies (14), Africa (20), Americas (19), Asia (17), Australasia (12), Europe (23).

Bibliographical Services

National bibliographies were produced for the following categories of materials: Monographs (44), new periodicals (43), newspapers (23), government publications (27), maps (24), films (2), video records (1), musical scores (16), sound recordings (6), theses (18). National bibliographies were also published for manuscripts and microforms. There are several areas where very few bibliographies are produced and studies of the desirability of producing bibliographies in these areas would be beneficial. 20 countries indicated that they regularly published periodicals indexing services.

Lending and Information Services

Thirty-five countries indicated that they provided national lending services for books, twenty-eight for periodicals and fifteen for non-book materials such as micro forms, manuscripts, films, sound recordings, prints, photographs, maps and music scores. Twenty-six countries indicated that they were the co-ordinating or focal point in the national inter-library lending system.

Computer-based information services are provided in the following subject areas by countries: General science and technology (7), medical sciences (7), industry (6), general social sciences (7), education (6), law (5), humanities and arts (5).

Fourteen countries indicated that they either operated or regularly accessed machine readable data bases.

Co-ordination Role

The number of countries indicating that the national library had an executive responsibility to co-ordinate the following groups of libraries were: all libraries (7), central government departmental libraries (1), provincial/state government departmental libraries (1), public libraries (2).

Many more national libraries had an advisory responsibility: All libraries (19), central government departmental libraries (19), provincial/state government departmental libraries (9), libraries of universities and other tertiary educational institutions (9), libraries of indistrial and commercial organisations (7), public libraries (4), and school libraries (3).

The role in co-ordinating or providing services to these groups of libraries was established by either law (19 countries) or administrative arrangement (16 countries).

Resource Sharing Networks

Thirteen countries indicated that their national library was the focal point for promoting and maintaining nationwide resource sharing networks. Active contributing participants included the following groups in the number of countries indicated: Central government departments (13), provincial/state departments (8), universities and other tertiary educational institutions (10), industrial and commercial organisations (9), professional associations (1), public libraries (1), and archives (1). The national libraries of nine countries indicated that they were authorised to contract with other organisations in the development and maintenance of these networks.

Research and Development

Twelve national libraries indicated that they provided most funds for research and development in library and information servies in their country. Eighteen national libraries said they had a designated research unit with an average of 12 specialist staff engaged in these units. Eleven countries indicated that staff other than those in the research and development unit are engaged in research and development activities. The numbers ranged from one to fifty.

International Information Systems

The number of national libraries participating in the following programs were: international exchange of MARC data (21), national agency for ISBN (27), national agency for CIP (10). Twelve national libraries indicated that they were the designated focal point for the UNESCO General Information Programme, and twenty-three for ISSN.

Twenty national libraries indicated that they acted as a national centre for foreign inter-library lending and borrowing although only ten national libraries processed more than 90% of the loan/photocopy requests sent abroad for libraries in their country and only twelve national libraries processed more than 90% of the loan/photocopy requests received from abroad.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

INTERNATIONAL LIBRARY - BASED INFORMATION SYSTEMS: 1978 QUESTIONNAIRE

SUMMARY OF RETURNS

This questionnaire includes revisions suggested by directors of National Libraries at or following the 1977 Conference of Directors of National Libraries in Brussels.

PURPOSE OF THIS QUESTIONNAIRE

This questionnaire has been prepared by the National Library of Australia at the request of the meeting of Directors of National Libraries and is being sent to national libraries throughout the world. The object of this questionnaire is to determine the range of responsibilities of national libraries and to identify specific roles which may warrant further investigation. By ascertaining the role of individual national libraries in the many areas of development of national and international systems, it is proposed to make an overall assessment of the present situation of national libraries with particular reference to their planning, co-ordination and leadership roles. It is hoped that a knowledge of the status and functions of other national libraries may be of value to individual national libraries negotiating with governments and other agencies with a view to developing their own functions and responsibilities. This knowledge may also assist national libraries in reaching a wider and deeper degree of co-operation between national information systems.

ROLE IN THE PROVISION OF NATIONAL LIBRARY BASED INFORMATION SERVICES

Authority

1. (a) On what authority does your library provide national library services

(i) act of parliament/legislature

- Algeria, Angola, Australia, Bangladesh, Botswana, Canada, Sri Lanka, Colombia, Czech Socialist Republic, Dominican Republic, Federal Republic of Germany, France, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Namibia, Portugal, Malawi, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Rhodesia, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Uruguay, USA, Zambia.

(ii) Ministerial or cabinet decision

- Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Republic of China, Finland, France, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, South Africa, Swaziland, Switzerland Taiwan, Thailand, Tunisia, Zaire.

(iii) common acceptance

- Finland, The Netherlands, Norway.

(iv) other authority

- Fiji, Finland (University), Philippines (Admin. Code).

(b) Briefly describe the responsibilities which this authority places on your library

- acquire, develop and preserve comprehensive collections relating to the country.
- provide library services such as lending, bibliographical and reference services, to government departments, libraries and the public.
- co-operate nationally and internationally in library matters.
- receive legal deposit materials.
- make collections available, i.e. compile union catalogues and bibliographies.
- enter agreements to develop library services.
- maintain archival collections
- provide interlibrary loan services.
- maintain a science and technology library.

2. (a) Is the director of your library directly responsible to

(i) the parliament/legislature

- Japan, USA

(ii) a minister/secretary of state

- Algeria, Austria, Bangladesh, Botswana, Belgium, Canada, Republic of China, Fiji, France, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Malaysia, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Tunisia, Uruguay,

(iii) the head of a department of the central government

- Angola, Brazil, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Namibia, Philippines, Rhodesia, Singapore, South Africa, Swaziland, Thailand.

(iv) a governing body if so, who appoints members to this body

- Australia (National Library Council), Sri Lanka (Minister of Education), Czech Socialist Republic (Minister of Culture), Malawi (Minister of Education), Nigeria (Federal Military Government), Peru (National Institute of Culture).

(v) other authority - please specify

- Bulgaria (Committee of Culture), Finland (The Senate of the University), Federal Republic of Germany (Administration Board), Norway (University of Oslo).

(b) Where appropriate, give the title of the minister, government department, etc.

(i) Ministry of Education

- Bangladesh, Belgium, Sri Lanka, Ireland, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, South Africa, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand.

(ii) Secretary of State

- Canada, Fiji, France.

(iii) Minister of Culture

- Algeria, Brazil, Czech Socialist Republic, Italy, Singapore.

(iv) Minister of Internal Affairs.

- Botswana, Rhodesia.

National collections

3. (a) Is your library responsible for the development of comprehensive national collections (i.e. to record the archievements of your country) of the following materials

(i) printed literature

- Algeria, Angola, Australia, Austria, Botswana, Brazil, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Sri Lanka, Republic of China, Colombia, Czech Socialist Republic, Dominican Republic, Finland, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Malawi, Malaysia, Namibia, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Rhodesia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Switzerland, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Tunisia, Uruguay, USA, Zaire, Zambia.

(ii) maps

- Algeria, Angola, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brasil, Bulgaria, Sri Lanka, Republic of China, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Finland, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Malawi, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Rhodesia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Uruguay, USA, Zaire, Zambia.

(iii) films

- Angola, Australia, Sri Lanka. Republic of China, Dominican Republic, France, Malawi, Papua New Guinea, Portugal, Philippines, Rhodesia, Singapore, South Africa, Thailand, USA.

(iv) video records

- Angola, Australia, Sri Lanka, Dominican Republic, France, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Rhodesia, Spain, Thailand, USA.

(v) musical scores

- Algeria, Angola, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Sri Lanka, Republic of China, Dominican Republic, Finland, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Nigeria, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Rhodesia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Taiwan, Thailand, Uruguay, USA, Zaire.

(vi) sound recordings

Angola, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Sri Lanka, Republic of China, Dominican Republic, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, Japan, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Rhodesia, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, USA.

(vii) pictures and photographs

- Algeria, Angola, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Sri Lanka, Republic of China, Dominican Republic, France, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Nigeria, Peru, Philipines,, Portugal, Rhodesia, Singapore, Spain, Taiwan, Thailand, Tunisia, Uruguay, USA, Zambia.

(viii) private manuscripts

- Algeria, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Republic of China, Colombia, Finland, France, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Rhodesia, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, Uruguay, USA, Zambia, Sri Lanka.

(ix) government archives

- Angola, Bulgaria, Papua New Guinea, Rhodesia, Taiwan, Zambia.

(x) other materials - please specify

- Other materials specified includes Educational kits, Incunabula, coins, medals, art objects, stone inscriptions, palm leaves, microforms.

(b) Describe the authority for these responsibilities

(i) Copyright Act

- Bangladesh, Canada, Colombia, Hungary, Ireland.

(ii) Act of Parliament

- Bulgaria, Finland, Hungary.

(iii) National Library Act

- Australia, Canada, Malaysia, New Zealand, Poland, Singapore.

(iv) Other authorities nominated

- Archives Act, Administrative Code, Publications Act.

4. In which of the following areas does your library maintain one of the principal collections of printed literature in your country

(i) bibliography and generalities

- Algeria, Angola, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Sri Lanka, Republic of China, Columbia, Czech Socialist Republic, Finland, France, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Malawi, Malaysia, Namibia, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Rhodesia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, USA, Zambia.

(ii) general and science and technology

- Australia, Belgium, Botswana, Bulgaria, Republic of China, Colombia, Czech Socialist Republic, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Malawi, Namibia, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, USA, Zambia.

(iii) medical/biological sciences

- Australia, Belgium, Botswana, Bulgaria, Republic of China, Colombia, Finland, France, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Malawi, Namibia, Norway, Peru, Taiwan, Thailand, USA, Zambia.

(iv) physical sciences

- Australia, Belgium, Botswana, Sri Lanka, Republic of China, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Finland, France, Hungary Dominican Republic, Finland, France, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Malawi, Namibia, Norway, Peru, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, USA, Zambia.

(v) general social sciences

- Algeria, Angola, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Sri Lanka Republic of China, Colombia, Czech Socialist Republic, France, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Malawi, Namibia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Rhodesia, Singapore, Spain, Taiwan, Thailand, USA, Zambia.

(vi) education

- Algeria, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Republic of China, Colombia, France, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Malawi, Namibia, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Singapore, Spain, Taiwan, Thailand, USA, Zambia.

(vii) law

- Algeria, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Botswana, Brasil, Bulgaria, Republic of China, Colombia, Dominican Republic, France, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Namibia, Norway, Peru, Poland, Spain, Taiwan, Thailand, USA, Zambia.

(viii) official publications

- Algeria, Angola, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Republic of China, Colombia, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Namibia, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Rhodesia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan, USA.

(ix) humanities

- Algeria, Angola, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Sri Lanka, Republic of China, Colombia, Czech Socialist Republic, Dominican Republic, Finland, France, Hungary, Ireland, Japan, Malawi, Namibia, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, Uruguay, USA, Zambia.

(x) arts

- Algeria, Angola, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Republic of China, Columbia, Czech Socialist Republic, Finland, France, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Malawi, Namibia, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, USA, Zambia.

(xi) Literature

- Algeria, Angola, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Republic of China, Colombia, Czech Socialist Republic, Finland, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Namibia, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Singapore, Taiwan, USA.

(xii) music

- Algeria, Angola, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Republic of China, Columbia, Czech Socialist Republic, Finland, France, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Malawi, Namibia, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Singapore, Spain, Taiwan, Thailand, USA.

(xiii) area studies

- Australia, Austria, Botswana, Republic of China, Czech Socialist Republic, France, Japan, Malawi, Namibia, Nigeria, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, USA.

(xiv) Africa

- Algeria, Angola, Australia, Belgium, Botswana, Republic of China, Czech Socialist Republic, France, Italy, Japan, Malawi, Namibia, Nigeria, Rhodesia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Thailand, USA, Zambia.

(xv) Americas

- Australia, Austria, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Republic of China, Czech Socialist Republic, Dominican Republic, France, Italy, Japan, Malawi, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Thailand, USA.

(xvi) Asia

- Algeria, Australia, Austria, Botswana, Sri Lanka, Republic of China, Czech Socialist Republic, France, Italy, Japan, Malawi, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, USA.

(xvii) Australasia

- Australia, Botswana, Republic of China, Czech Socialist Republic, France, Italy, Japan, Malawi, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, USA.

(xviii) Europe

- Algeria, Australia, Austria, Belgium. Botswana, Bulgaria, Republic of China, Colombia, Czech Socialist Republic, Finland, France, Italy, Japan, Philippines, Portugal, Malawi, The Netherlands, Nigeria, Peru, Singapore, Spain, Thailand, USA.

(xiv) other particular strengths - please specify

- Other strengths listed by responding countries include Ceyloniana, Eastern Europe, Japanalia, Government Documents, Library Science, Central and Southern Africa, S.E. Asia, French Local History, History of the Press, and Civil Rights, Minorities, Religion, Medieval MSS Incunabulas, Autographs, Papua New Guinea.

5. What is your annual allocation for acquisition of library materials? (please give answer in USDollars).

- Australia (2,430,500), Botswana (20,000), Bulgaria (450,000), Canada (500,000), Fiji (24,000), Finland (50,000), Federal Republic of Germany (568,000), Hungary (260,000), Italy (350,000), Japan (1,741,500), Malaysia (255,319), Namibia (23,755), The Netherlands (900,000), New Zealand (1,550,000), Nigeria (555,000), Papua New Guinea (54,225), Peru (5,770), Philippines (189,259), Portugal (28,800), Singapore (422,213), South Africa (75,000), Spain (200,000), Swaziland (30,054), Sweden (300,000), Switzerland (350,000), Taiwan (100,000), USA (21,774,200).

Bibliographical services

6. (a) Is a national bibliography produced in your country - Yes

- Algeria, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Botswana, Belgium, Bulgaria, Brazil, Canada, Republic of China. Columbia, Czech Socialist Republic, Sri Lanka, Dominican Republic Fiji, Finland, Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Malawi, Malaysia, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Rhodesia, Singapore, Spain, South Africa, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Tunisia, Uruguay, USA, Zaire, Zambia.

(b) If yes, is it produced by your library?

- Algeria, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Czech Socialist Republic, Finland, Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, Japan, Malaysia, Malawi, New Zealand, The Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Rhodesia, Singapore South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Tunisia, USA, Uruguay, Zambia, Zaire.

(c) If it is not produced by your library, please name the agency concerned.

- Fiji (Library Service of Fiji to produce in 1979) PNG (University of PNG Library) Ireland (Library School, University College Dublin) Spain (Institute Bibliographico Hispanico).

(d) Which of the following areas are covered by this bibliography?

(i) monographs

- Algeria, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Sri Lanka, Republic of China, Colombia, Czech Socialist Republic, Fiji, Finland, Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, Italy, Ireland, Japan, Malaysia, Malawi, New Zealand, The Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Rhodesia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, USA, Uruguay, Zambia, Zaire.

(ii) new periodicals

- Algeria, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Sri Lanka, Republic of China, Colombia, Czech Socialist Republic, Fiji, Finland, Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Malawi, New Zealand, The Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Rhodesia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, USA, Uruguay, Zaire, Zambia.

(iii) newspapers

- Algeria, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Socialist Republic, Fiji, Finland, Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Rhodesia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain USA.

(iv) government publications

- Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Botswana, Canada, Colombia, Fiji, Finland, Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Rhodesia, Singapore, South Africa, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan.

(v) maps

- Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria Colombia, Finland, Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Rhodesia, Singapore, South Africa, Switzerland, Zambia.

(vi) films

- Australia, USA.

(vii) video records

- Australia.

(viii) Musical scores

- Australia, Australia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, New Zealand, Norway, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, Sweden, USA, Zaire.

(ix) sound recordings

- Bulgaria, Canada, Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, New Zealand, USA.

(x) theses

- Algeria, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Sri Lanka, Colombia, Fiji, Federal Republic of Germany, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Sweden, Switzerland, Uruguay.

(xi) other materials - please specify

- Bibliographies were also published for Posters, Bibliographies, Translations, Foreign Acquisitions, Manuscripts, Microfilms, Education Kits, Pamphlets, Art Prints.

7. Which periodical indexing services or union lists are regularly published by your library -

Australia - Australian Public Affairs Information Service.

Bangladesh - Newspapers.

Belgium - Inventory for Belgian periodical contributions in Science, Tech., medicine and agric., Belgian Environmental Research Index, Inventory of Belgian contribution to History of Sciences, Belgian Union lists on foreign periodical holdings in Belgium, Belgian Holdings.

Bulgaria - National Bibliography of Bulgaria Series

Canada - supplied list

Czech Socialist Republic - Union list of foreign literature

Finland - Index to Finnish Periodicals.

Federal Republic of Germany - Supplied list

Hungary - supplied list

Ireland - Union List of Serials

Japan - Japanese periodicals Index - Humanities + Social Sciences
- Science + Technology

Malaysia - Periodical Indexes, Union lists

New Zealand - Index to N.Z. periodicals, Union lists

Philippines - P. Nat. Bibl., TNL Research Guide Series

Poland - supplied list

Singapore - Periodicals Index, Union catalogue of Scientific + tech. Journals

South Africa - Periodicals, Govt. Gazette

Switzerland - Magazines

Taiwan - Index to Chinese Periodicals, Union catalogue of Chinese books

USA - Union Catalogues, list, microfilm lists

Lending and information services

8. (a) Does your library provide national inter-library lending services for books, periodicals and non-book materials?

(i) books

- Algeria, Angola, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Republic of China, Czech Socialist Republic, Fiji, France, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Portugal, Malawi, Malaysia, Namibia, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Uruguay, Zaire.

(ii) periodicals

- Algeria, Angola, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Republic of China, Czech Socialist Republic, France, Italy, Malaysia, Namibia, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Uruguay, Zaire.

(iii) non-book materials - please specify

- Algeria, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Republic of China, Hungary, New Zealand, Singapore, South Africa, Sweden.

- non-book materials specified included microforms, xeroxes, Braille books, manuscripts, films, Sound Recordings, prints, photographs, maps, musical scores.

(b) If so, give the number of loans and photocopies, provided to remote users (i.e. other than to those visiting your library) per 1,000 population per annum

(i) loans/1,000 population/year

Australia (5.1), Austria (7.2.), Bulgaria (5.18), Canada (1.05), Hungary (.75), Japan (.117), Malaysia (.69), Namibia (.012), The Netherlands (2.1), New Zealand (1.7), Nigeria (.002), Singapore (.57), South Africa (1), Swaziland (1), Sweden (1.21), Taiwan (15), Zaire (.25).

(ii) photocopy requests/1000 population/year

- Australia (2.1), Bulgaria (6.575), Canada (.4), Hungary (.62), Ireland (1), Japan (.063), Malaysia (14.1), Namibia (.036), The Netherlands (10), New Zealand (1.4), Nigeria (.006), South Africa (4), Spain (2), Taiwan (2), Zaire (.406).

9. Is your library the co-ordination or focal point in the national interlibrary lending system

- Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Sri Lanka, Republic of China, Czech Socialist Republic, Finland, France, Italy, Japan, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Zaire, Zambia.

10. What computer based information services does your library provide in the following subject areas.

(a) general science and technology

(i) SDI Services

- Australia, Belgium, Canada, USA.

(ii) Current Awareness Bulletins

- Australia, Belgium, Japan, Poland.

(iii) Retrospective On-Line Searches

- Australia, Belgium, Canada, Federal Republic of Germany, USA.

(b) medical sciences

(i) SDI Services

- Australia, Belgium, Canada, Norway, USA.

(ii) Current Awareness Bulletins

- Australia, Belgium, Poland.

(iii) Retrospective On-line Searches

- Australia, Belgium, Canada, Norway, Federal Republic of Germany, USA.

(c) industry

(i) SDI Services

- Australia, Belgium, Canada, USA.

(ii) Current Awareness Bulletins

- Australia, Belgium, Poland.

(iii) Retrospective On-line Searches

- Australia, Belgium, Canada, Federal Republic of Germany, USA.

(d) general social sciences

(i) SDI Services

- Australia, Canada, Norway, USA.

(ii) Current Awareness Bulletins

- Australia, Japan, Poland.

(iii) Retrospective On-line Searches

- Australia, Canada, Federal Republic of Germany, Norway, USA.

(e) education

(i) SDI Services

- Australia, Canada, Norway, USA.

(ii) Current Awareness Bulletins

- Australia, Poland.

(iii) Retrospective On-line Searches

- Australia, Canada, Federal Republic of Germany, Norway, USA.

(f) law

(i) SDI Services

- Australia, Canada, USA.

(ii) Current Awareness Bulletins

- Australia, Poland

(iii) Retrospective On-line Searches

- Australia, Canada, Federal Republic of Germany, USA.

(g) Humanities and arts

(i) SDI Services

- Canada, USA

(ii) Current Awareness Bulletins

- Japan, Poland

(iii) Retrospective On-line Searches

- Canada, Federal Republic of Germany, USA.

11. List the machine-readable data bases

(i) purchased and operated by your library

(ii) not operated by your library but which are regularly accessed by your library

(iii) generated and operated by your library

(a) Bibliography

(i) Names of data bases operated

Australia - BNB, LC Catalogue (which with ANB, form AMRS)
Belgium - Bibl. dela France, CANADIANA, Deutsche Bibl. MARC BNB, MARC LC,
Canada - Aust MARC, CONSER, INTER MARC, UK + LC MARC
Federal Republic of Germany - Hochschulschriften-Verzeichnis Neuerscheinungen Sofortdienst - CIP Wochentl. Verzeichnis
Japan - LC MARC
The Netherlands - LC MARC, OCLC, UK MARC
Norway - BR Lib., Lib of C

(ii) Names of data bases regularly accessed

Australia - BISA
Belgium - DIMDI, ESA, Lockheed, SDC
Brazil - IBM/370 mod, 158 in block time
Federal Republic of Germany - BNB
South Africa - UK + LC MARC, Periodicals in S.A. Libraries

(iii) Name of data base generated by your library

Australia - ANB, SALSSAH
Belgium - Belgium Biblio
Canada - CAN/MARC
Japan - JAPAN MARC
Norway - NORMARC Union Catal. of Periodicals
Philippines - PhilMARC
South Africa - UNICAT (JC on Fiche)

(b) science and technology

(i) Names of data bases operated

Australia - BIOSIS, MEDLARS/MEDLINE, SCI

Belgium - CASON, COMPENDEX, Envir. Sc. Index, ISI, INSPECT Pollution Abs.

(ii) Names of data bases regularly accessed

Australia - ARI, ASI also data bases available through LOCKHEED, CA CONDENSATES, COMPENDEX, INSPEC, IRRD, METADEX, SCI

Canada - AGRICOLA, BIOSIS, COMPENDEX, FSTA, Geo. Ref., INSPEC, MEDLINE, NTIS, SCI

Japan - NTIS

Poland - ARKA

(iii) Names of data base generated by your library

Australia - AUSTRE

(c) social sciences

(i) Names of data bases operated

Australia - ERIC,SSCI

(ii) Names of data bases regularly accessed

Australia - AEI, ALIT, ERIC, also data bases available through LOCKHEED, SDC, SSCI

Belgium - LOCKHEED, SDC

Canada - ERIC, SSCI

(iii) Names of data base generated by your library

Australia - APAIS

(d) general

(i) Names of data bases operated

Sweden - LIBRIS

USA - DDC, DIALOG, ERDA, INFORBANK, LEGIS, LOCKHEED NASA, MEDLINE, NYTIMES, SDC.

(ii) Name of data bases regularly accessed

USA - DDC, DIALOG, ERDA, INFORBANK, LEGIS LOCKHEED, MEDLINE, NASA, NYTIMES. SDC.

(iii) Name of data base generated by your library

USA - Bibl., MARC Films, MARC Map, MARC Monog, Name Auth., CG95, CG94, CG93, Subject Auth., NRCM .

12. Does your library co-ordinate the distribution of machine-readable bibliographic data as part of a national shared cataloguing system?

(i) Yes - Belgium, Canada, Finland, Sweden, USA.

(ii) Plan to do so

- Bulgaria, Fiji, Japan, The Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Taiwan.

13. (a) Does your library have an executive or advisory role in co-ordinating the following groups of libraries?

(i) All libraries in your country
Executive role

- Papua New Guinea

Advisory role

- Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bulgaria, Republic of China, Fiji, Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, South Africa, Taiwan.

(ii) Central government departmental libraries
Executive role

- Angola

Advisory role

- Angola, Australia, Belgium, Botswana, Canada, Republic of China, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Portugal, Rhodesia, Singapore, Swaziland, Taiwan, Thailand.

(iii) Provincial/State government departmental libraries
Executive role

- Angola

Advisory role

- Angola, Republic of China, Federal Republic of Germany, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Nigeria, Norway, Swaziland, Taiwan.

(iv) Libraries of universities and other tertiary educational institutions

Advisory role

- Belgium, Sri Lanka, Republic of China, Federal Republic of Germany, Nigeria, Norway, Swaziland, Sweden, Taiwan.

(v) Libraries of industrial and commercial organizations

Advisory role

- Sri Lanka, Republic of China, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Swaziland, Taiwan.

(vi) Public Libraries
Executive role

- Czech Socialist Republic, Fiji.

Advisory role

- Sri Lanka, Philippines, Thailand, Zaire

(vii) School libraries

Advisory role

- Papua New Guinea, Peru, Singapore

(b) Is your library's role in co-ordinating these libraries established by

(i) law

- Angola, Australia, Canada, Sri Lanka, Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, Japan, Malaysia, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Singapore, Taiwan, USA, Zaire.

(ii) administrative arrangement

- Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Botswana, Bulgaria, Czech Socialist Republic, Fiji, France, Norway, Rhodesia, South Africa, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, USA.

(iii) other

- Papua New Guinea (Cabinet Decision)

14. Some libraries encourage resource sharing in their countries by giving access to overseas data bases to other libraries and by having centres responsible for developing collections to meet national needs in inter-library lending. Is your library a focal point for promoting and maintaining nationwide such resource sharing networks?

- Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Republic of China, France, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Rhodesia, Thailand.

(a) Do these resource sharing networks include, as active contributing participants, organisations in the following groups?

(i) central government departments

- Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Republic of China, France, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Rhodesia, Singapore, Sweden, Thailand.

(ii) provincial/state departments

- Australia, Austria, Canada, Republic of China, France, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Philippines.

(iii) universities and other tertiary educational institutions

- Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Republic of China, France, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Thailand.

(iv) industrial and commercial organisations

- Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Republic of China, France, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Thailand.

(v) other groups - please mention

- Australia (Professional associations), Nigeria (Special Libraries), France (Public libraries), Philippines (Archives).

(b) Show the number of contributing participants in the networks for each of the following areas

bibliography
general science and technology
medical sciences
industry
general social sciences
education
law
humanities and arts

There were only several responses to this question. Several indicated that it was not possible to divide the participants by subject.

(c) (i) Is your library authorised to contract with, or to finance, other organisations in the development and maintenance of these networks?

authorised to contract

- Australia, Belgium, Canada, Republic of China, France, The Netherlands, Nigeria, Thailand, Uruguay.

authorised to finance

- Belgium, Nigeria.

(ii) How much money has your library spent, or approved for spending, on the development and maintance of these networks in any recent year (please express this in US dollars)

- Australia (US $165,000), Belgium (US $800,000), Nigeria (US $12,000), Rhodesia (US $28,000).

15. What agency funds most research and development in library and information services in your country?

(i) your library

- Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Republic of China, Czech Socialist Republic, Fiji, Nigeria, Peru, Portugal, Singapore, Thailand, USA.

(ii) a department of the central government

- Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Sri Lanka, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Finland, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, USA.

(iii) an independent body

- Federal Republic of Germany, Ireland, Peru, Zaire.

other agencies - please specify

- Canada (several agencies), Fiji (University of the South Pacific), The Netherlands (Dutch Agency for the Advancement of Information Services), Philippines (NSDB, NEDA, FAFE), Singapore (International Development Research Centre), South Africa (Human Sciences Research Council), USA (Council on Library Resources), Swaziland (University College of Swaziland).

16. (a) Does your library have a designated research and development unit?

- Angola, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Sri Lanka, Republic of China, Czech Socialist Republic, France, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Singapore, South Africa, USA.

(b) If YES, how many specialist staff are engaged in this R & D unit?

- Australia (6), Austria (5.5), Bangladesh (5), Belgium(5), Bulgaria (36), Canada (32), Ceylon (2), Republic of China (7), France (20), Nigeria (3), Peru (3), Poland (43), Portugal (4), Singapore (2).

(c) How many staff, other than those in the R & D unit, are engaged in research and development activities?

- Australia (2), Belgium (20), Bulgaria (50), Canada (6), Ceylon (9), The Netherlands (1), Nigeria (24), Peru (12), Philippines (13), Poland (11), Portugal (3).

ROLE IN DEVELOPMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL LIBRARY BASED INFORMATION SYSTEM

17. (a) Does your library participate in programs towards the realisation of UBC (Universal Bibliographic Control) objectives in the following areas?

(i) international exchange of MARC data

- Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Socialist Republic, Fiji, Finland, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, The Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Philippines, Sweden, USA, Zaire.

(ii) national agency for CIP

- Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, New Zealand, Switzerland, USA, Zaire.

(iii) national agency for ISBNs

- Angola, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Fiji, Finland, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, Italy, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Philippines, Portugal, Rhodesia, Singapore, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Uruguay, USA, Zaire.

18. Is your library the designated focal point for these other international programs?

(i) Unesco General Information Programme

- Angola, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Czech Socialist Republic, Italy, Malaysia, Nigeria, Singapore, Thailand, Zaire, Zambia.

(ii) ISSN

- Angola, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Finland, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, Japan, Malaysia, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Poland, Singapore, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Uruguay, USA, Zaire.

(iii) Other

- Australia (NATIS, UNISIST, ISORID), (Belgium (ISORID), Canada (ISORID), Hungary (ISORID, International System for S & T), Malaysia (AGRIS), Philippines (Asian Cultural Documentation Centre for UNESCO), Singapore (ISORID, UNESCO Stats.). Swaziland (United Nations Publications), Thailand (UNESCO Stats.).

19. (a) Is there a centre in your country responsible for meeting requests from other countries for material published in your country?

- Angola, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Republic of China, Colombia, Czech Socialist Republic, Fiji, Fed. Republic of Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Namibia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Singapore, South Africa, Swaziland, Switzerland, Taiwan.

(b) If yes is this your library?

- Angola, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Republic of China, Colombia, Czech Socialist Republic, Fed. Republic of Germany, Hungary, Japan, Malaysia, Namibia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Singapore, South Africa, Switzerland, Taiwan.

(c) If no to (a) is this an objective of any agency in your country?

- Italy, Spain, Swaziland.

20. (a) Does your library act as a national centre for foreign inter-library lending and borrowing?

- Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Sri Lanka, Republic of China Czech Socialist Republic, France, Hungary, Italy, Namibia, Nigeria, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Thailand.

(b) Does your library process more than 90% of the loan/photocopy requests sent abroad for libraries in your country?

- Bulgaria, Republic of China, Italy, Namibia, Norway, Peru, Portugal, Spain, Thailand, USA.

(c) Does your library process more than 90% of the loan/photocopy requests received from abroad (whether eventually supplied by your library or some other library)

- Bulgaria, Republic of China, Czech Socialist Republic, France, Italy, Namibia, Nigeria, Peru, Portugal, Spain, Thailand, USA.

21. Indicate any important national services or functions undertaken by your library which are not covered by this questionnaire

- Compile retrospective national bibliographies
- Maintain national union catalogues
- Provide catalogue support services
- In-service training of personnel
- National clearing centre
- Publication of professional literature
- International exchange of publications
- Exhibition of cultural activities
- Library education and training
- Provision of Public Library services
- Promotional activities
- Book restoring
- Standards
- Reference Services (traditional)
- Multi-lingual biblio services
- Microfilming

TOWARDS A WIDER LIBRARY RESOURCE SHARING AND INTERFLOW THROUGH VARIOUS WAYS AND FORMS

MR DING ZHI GANG, Deputy Director,
National Library of Peking

Respected Mr Chairman,
Honourable Directors of National Libraries,
Dear Colleagues and Friends,

The Director of our library, Mr Liu Ji Ping, was honoured to receive the invitation extended by Dr Chandler, the Director-General of the National Library of Australia, to participate as one of the co-sponsers in the International Conference of Directors of National Libraries on Resource Sharing in Asia and Oceania. Unfortunately, as his state of health is not good, he is unable to attend, and I have been entrusted with the job of replacing him. I am the deputy director of the library, please allow me, first of all, in the name of the National Library of Peking, to wish the Conference great success, and to convey to our colleagues good wishes and warm greetings. Also, I would like to take this opportunity to express my respect and sincere gratitude to the whole staff of the Australian National Library as well as all who have undertaken the heavy task of preparation and convocation of this Conference.

This is the first time that the National Library of Peking has attended an international conference of national library directors. It is a great pleasure to be able to get together with librarians of Asia and Oceania to exchange recent developments and views on common problems of immediate concern. Through frank discussion and consultation, I believe the Conference is bound to be helpful and fruitful.

I should like to present now our views and ways with regard to the universal availability and interflow of library resource.

As is well known to all, with the rapid progress of science and technology, the number and forms of world publications have greatly proliferated, especially in the last two decades. Current scientific literature is not

only diverse in type and stupendous in quantity, but the time needed for publishing has been shortened, and it can be estimated that the multiplying cycle for the issuing of scientific literature will be further shortened. In addition to the traditional forms of publications, various types of audio-visual materials have developed with far greater speed in recent years. It is our opinion that any type of library in the world would find it impossible to acquire all these materials in its own collection; therefore, library co-operation is indispensible in order to be able to comply with the different requests of users. Moreover, in view of the extremely speedy development of modern science and technology, it is absolutely necessary for every library to be aware of the experience and latest achievements of other countries, thus to promote the development of its own science and technology as well as productive forces.

For these and other reasons, those large public libraries and special libraries entrusted with the heavy task of providing readers with the latest materials, apart from improving their inter-library loan service, should take a number of wide-scale measures to improve and reinforce international co-operation in the area of exchange of publications and international lending service. Only in this way can national libraries satisfy most of the urgent needs of their users.

In recent years, major types of libraries in the world have made remarkable progress, accumulated valuable experiences and created many efficient and effective forms in respect to universal availability and interflow of publications. In addition to traditional methods such as international exchange, inter-library borrowing and lending, photo-reproduction, new acquisition display, etc., they have pushed forward the dissemination of information and exchange of materials by adopting some new techniques and setting up new facilities, for instance : 1) the electronic means of speedy and precise signal storing, data processing and literature retrieval has made the computer a mo powerful tool for dissemination of information; so, nowadays, computers are being used extensively by libraries in many countries to fulfil their daily routines; 2) the use of communication satellites and cable television has made it possible not only to search through the information stored in the data bases within their own countries, but also providing access to large data centres all over the world, thus breaking through the barriers between libraries and boundaries between countries and establishing a world-wide network of information services; 3) the constant improvement and development of techniques in microfilming and photocopying has greatly raised the

output rate and efficiency of reproduction, and at the same time tremendously lowered the cost of photoduplicates. This obviously has made it possible to disseminate library resource in large quantities; 4) the rapid development of audio-visual materials has been an innovation in library services greatly raising their efficiency as well as the speed of availability of library materials.

In the sphere of international library lending service, many national libraries, in line with the principle of resource sharing and more collaboration between libraries and information organs, have spared no pains in the acquisition and bibliographical control of their own collections as well as in the provision of every convenience for the speedy fulfilment of what is required by their foreign counterparts. They are not only able to fill the gaps of their stocks through international exchange but also to meet their domestic needs through international loan services.

Facts have proved time and again that the practice of "Each supplies what the other needs" has contributed much to international resource sharing and exchange of publications. It promotes scientific and technical developments in the respective countries and at the same time improves mutual understanding and friendship among the peoples of the world.

But we ought to see on the other hand that because of differences in national and library conditions, differences in the tasks set, the level of development of resource sharing achieved by different national libraries will necessarily be uneven. There are still many urgent issues that remain to be settled, and it is only through sincere co-operation and patient consultation among us that they can be solved step by step.

With regard to the universal availability and interflow of publications, the National Library of Peking has for a long time placed special emphasis on the following library activities :

1) International exchange of publications. Since the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949 up to the year 1978, the Library has entered into exchange and gift arrangements with over 1,700 libraries, scientific institutions and learned societies in 120 countries and localities. Through international exchange, the Library receives every year a large number of publications from abroad, and reciprocates by sending Chinese publications on the basis of equity and mutual benefit. The publications received in 1978 from its exchange partners amounted to 54,785 copies, during the same year, a total number of 111,575 copies were offered. The Library has gradually

established exchange relationships with various types of libraries and societies in most countries of Asia and Oceania, of which, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, India, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Papua New Guinea have maintained close ties with the Library. Evidently this not only enriches the collections of libraries and institutions concerned, but also promotes the cultural interflow as well as mutual understanding and friendship among nations. I'm certain that the exchange of publications between our Library and other libraries in the world will surely be strengthened and extended in the years to come.

2) International Lending Services. Apart from paying particular attention to the domestic inter-library loan service, the Library has entered into international lending agreements with national libraries and university libraries in 23 countries since the beginning of 1956. Among these countries, Great Britain, Australia, Canada, Finland, Denmark and the Federal Republic of Germany have become the main inter-library lending partners of our Library.

Mr Chairman, Honourable Directors of National Libraries, having smashed the "gang of four", the Chinese people, under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, have started again a new long march. They are determined to transfer China into a powerful socialist country with modern agriculture, industry, national defence and science and technology by the end of the century. The people of all nationalities in our country, united as one and with a common purpose, are striving against every difficulty on the road forward to bring about the four modernisations in China.

Following the rapid development of socialist revolution and construction, the libraries in our country have shouldered increasingly heavy loads. There goes a Chinese popular saying : "Food and fodder should go before troops and horses", implying that proper preparations should be made in advance. A variety of library resources are playing an important role in the march towards the realization of the four modernizations in China. Our Party Central Committee and government have attached great concern to the development of library activities, and a plan for setting up a large-scale library with modern facilities is now being prepared. We shall work still harder to make our contribution in turning China into a modern, powerful socialist country by the end of the century, and we shall do everything we can to promote the universal availability and interflow of publications in the future. Before I conclude my speech, I would like to thank once again the Conference organizers for the opportunity to meet together and lay a foundation for further co-operation.

That's all. Thank you.

THE ROLE OF THE NATIONAL DIET LIBRARY IN SHARING NATIONAL LIBRARY RESOURCES

MR MINORU KISHIDA, Librarian, National Diet Library.

In order to achieve the high objective of attaining the international sharing of library resources, each national library should be so prepared as to share its own part with regard to the publications produced in its own country. In other words, the national library should be fully aware of what publications are published in the country and should have an access to these publications, process them in accordance with the internationally standardized rules and then control the bibliographic records thus produced so as to be made available to users. This is the indispensable requirement to meet the "Universal Availability of Publications" (UAP) put forward as the general theme at the IFLA Conference in 1978, as well as the Universal Bibliographic Control (UBC).

The status and the mission entrusted to the National Diet Library as the sole national library in Japan bind us to share the international role with other national libraries in achieving this common goal. Being the only institution for legal deposits in the country, the NDL considers itself the place of the last resort for domestic publications.

The publishing in Japan is very active, and according to the current figures the nation is producing yearly 25,000 titles, 1 billion copies of books and 5,000 titles, 1.2 billion copies of serials, ranking one of the highest producing nations and no.1 among the countries using Chinese characters. It is expected

that all such domestic publications are to be deposited with this Library, but because of ignorance of the deposit system or for other reasons, we often find that publications such as those issued by local publishers, enterprises and private individuals including magazines and the like by groups of same interests and hobbies often intended for limited circulation, fail to be deposited with us. To improve this situation, the NDL is taking various measures and means to identify and procure such publications.

What we consider as important as the effort to collect domestic publications as comprehensively as possible is prompter provision of bibliographic information on the incoming materials. We are currently placing particular emphasis on the computerized compilation of the Japanese national bibliography, and since the beginning of 1978 are producing by computer a weekly list and its quarterly cumulative index, which will eventually form the data file in magnetic tape called JAPAN/MARC as well as the annual book-form edition of the national bibliography. The JAPAN/MARC is currently under examination at the ad hoc committee regarding format, distribution and other necessary details. In addition, what the NDL has been compiling on a computer basis are the National Diet Library catalog of Japanese periodicals and the Japanese periodicals index, quarterly, to mention but two examples. I note in this regard that all such bibliographic records have been the outcome of NDL's success in handling Chinese characters, the main components of the Japanese language, in the machine-assisted processing of Japanese-language publications and that it will eventually bring a great benefit to not only domestic but also

foreign institutions which are in varying degrees involved in the acquisition, processing and provision of Japanese-language data.

The National Diet Library naturally has keen and continued interest in the procurement of and access to publications produced in Asia and Oceania, reflecting the need of our people who want to know more about your peoples and lands. Under the circumstances, however, we often find it extremely difficult to procure what we want partly because of a lack of publishing information on the area.

I would like to take this opportunity to solicit you, the representatives of our counterpart institutions, to join us in the common efforts toward control and supply of national bibliographic information so that it may pave the way to a better flow of national resources information among the national libraries in this region.

RECENT ACTIVITIES ON INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION AND COMPUTERIZATION OF THE NATIONAL DIET LIBRARY

MR TSUTOMO SATOH, National Library of Australia.

The National Diet Library engages itself in active international exchanges. In the fiscal year 1977 (from April '77 to March '78), a total of 19,054 volumes of books and 3,791 titles of periodicals came in through this channel, and 24,378 volumes of books and 7,843 titles of periodicals were sent abroad for 35 international agencies and more than 630 libraries and institutions in 101 countries. Among those figures, as for official publications, 12,973 volumes of books and 2,005 titles of periodicals were received, and 20,636 volumes of books and 5,444 titles of periodicals were sent abroad. The NDL began its international loan service in 1960 following the loan code of IFLA. In the same year, loans were made of 61 volumes to the libraries and institutions of foreign countries upon request from them, for instance, the British Library Lending Division, the Lenin Library and the Science Academy of USSR and the National Library of Australia. Regarding international photocopy service in the same year, a total of 19,529 sheets of photocopies were made and sent upon request, for instance, the National Library of Hungary, the National Scientific Information Centre of India and the Science Academy of East Germany, totaling 44 countries and 250 institutions. (And also 4,720 of microfilm negatives and 10,140 cm of positive were made and sent.) There were 123 reference inquiries made by people from foreign countries there. Most of them are inquiries about

1. compilation of bibliography of a particular subject,
2. location and acquisition access of the particular materials and
3. facts about the persons and items relating to Japan.

Demands from foreign countries for those international services are constantly increasing year by year. Beside upon request from UNESCO, the NDL sent to it cards for 2,603 titles of Japanese translated books in the 1976 fiscal year to cooperate in the INDEX TRANSLATINUM, vol. 29, and NDL also to coopecate in the BIBLIOGRAPHICAL AND ABSTRACTING SERVICE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD 1976 ed. Since 1967, the NDL has been sending preliminary bibliographic data to the U.S. Library of Congress to cooperate in L.C.'s NPAC. As you have seen, the NDL has been issuing computer basis edition of the NATIONAL DIET LIBRARY CATALOGUE OF FOREIGN PERIODICALS, the GENERAL INDEX TO THE DIET DEBATES, the MONTHLY LIST OF FOREIGN SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS, the NATIONAL DIET LIBRARY CATALOGUE OF JAPANESE

PERIODICALS, the JAPANESE PERIODICALS INDEX since 1972. And the computer cumulation system of the CURRENT PUBLICATIONS which is the weekly edition of annual cumulated national bibliography was established in December 1977. And thus, the computer cumulation of the CURRENT PUBLICATIONS and also JAPANESE NATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY QUARTERLY INDEXES has been published since January 1978. This CURRENT PUBLICATIONS follows the Nihon Cataloguing Rules (NCR): Preliminary Edition, which the Japan Library Associations had prepared in 1977 and adapted to be compatible with ISBD, which, in turn, had been adapted to meet Japanese requirements. (eg. less punctuation). As the next step, the NDL is expecting to issue a computer-compiled annual cumulated edition of this as the JAPANESE NATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY. After the 1977 ed., the NDL is intending to publish it by computer-compilation, because the NDL has already prepared the data base for it.

Now the NDL is examining what type of publication is the most effective as a national bibliography. Compared with the former manual edition, forthcoming issues have more data-elements. The NDL is now trying to examine the best compilation and format of the new edition. In relation to the above, the NDL is at the same time considering a 5-year cumulation of the NATIONAL DIET LIBRARY CATALOGUE, based on the data-element used for the computerized edition JAPANESE NATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY, if this is successful. Previously, the NDL CATALOGUE has been issued in 10-year cumulations. Success of the computer-compiled CURRENT PUBLICATIONS is the first step to approach "JAPAN MARC". As the next step, the NDL is preparing the standard sized data to enable libraries nation-wide to use the same format. Then the NDL can distribute its data to all Japanese libraries. On September 1978 the "NDL Committee for JAPAN MARC" was established to gather users' opinion with the Deputy National Diet Librarian as its chairman. This committee consists of the representatives of every field concerned, that is, public, university, special libraries, publishers, learned peoples and data communicatior companies. By the end of 1979, the NDL would like to have its conclusion for it, and start JAPAN MARC from the beginning of 1981. Talking about the NDL printed card service, the NDL has been planning to print them from the computer data-system directly. That is, printed catalogue cards come from the Japanese book data base directly, and can be accessed from various points - title or author or series, etc. In the near future on-line computer data bases will be sure to further the progress of the Japanese library world and also the international cooperation. However, in order for JAPAN MARC to join the INTERNATIONAL MARC network, the Japanese characters used in the entries will have to be converted to

Roman script. This could present problems, especially in the time consumed in converting and in ambiguity because of the number of homonyms in the Japanese language. A further problem the fact that the NDL uses the Kunreishiki system of romanisation and the L.C. uses system of modified Hepburn.

Next, about periodicals, the NDL started its business as the ISDS Centre of Japan in January 1976. In the 1977 fiscal year, 885 ISSN numbers were assigned. Of these 245 were assigned on request from both outside and inside Japan. In the 3 years since the start of operations, 1,525 numbers have been assigned as of March 1978. Among these 470 were the result of requests. The NDL is assigning ISSN numbers, for the time being, to newly acquired periodicals and periodicals whose title has changed. The ISSN numbers are especially assigned to academic periodicals and those of international importance. In May 1977, the NDL sent a delegate to the Conference of ISSN Centre which was held in Moscow. The above brief informations were translated by quoting from the Annual Report of the 1977 fiscal and the recent Monthly Bulletin of the National Diet Library.

LIST OF SCRIPTS AVAILABLE
IN THE NDL COMPUTER.

(As of Sept. 1978)

Form of Script / Type of Script:	Standard	Gothic	Italic	Total
Chinese characters	4 570			4 570
Japanese square Syllabary (large & small letters)	90	89		
Japanese cursine Syllabary (large & small letters)	83	79		341
English-European Letters (large & small letters)	88	83	83	
Greek script (large & small letters)	32			
special script (large & small letters)	14	14	14	423
Roman numberals (large & small letters)	20	20	20	
Arabic Numerals	10	10	10	90
Ordinary marks	18	18	18	
General marks	202			
Others	17	20		293
Grand total	5 239	333	145	5 717

SOME IDEAS ON CO-OPERATION BETWEEN NATIONAL LIBRARIES IN ASIA AND OCEANIA

DR KAMEL ASALI, Director, The Library of the University of Jordan.

It is a plain fact that libraries in West Asia as well as in other regional divisions of Asia are West-oriented. Their relations with the libraries of Europe and the U.S.A. are much stronger than the relations that exist among themselves. This is a natural by-product of the fact that the libraries of the West are more advanced and better organized than their counter-parts in other parts of the world and this, in turn, is a by-product of the leading cultural role of the West in the modern world. In the Arab world, for example, libraries have more extensive relations with libraries in the U.S.A. and Britain than with themselves. Libraries in West Asia know very little about library development in other parts of Asia, and the relations of co-operation either do not exist at all or are very limited. Such a state of things hampers cultural, political and economic co-operation between the countries of Asia, and adversely affects the development of the countries of Asia.

Therefore the idea of holding this first Conference of the Directors of National Libraries on Resource Sharing is most welcome in as much as national libraries constitute the major instruments and organs for developing library services in their respective countries.

Since the necessity of co-operation between libraries in Asia is by now well recognized, it is well to begin with organizing the relations of co-operation between national libraries. National libraries are limited in number and constitute therefore a good starting point for inter-library co-operation.

It is well-known that there are numerous barriers and obstacles which stand in the way of co-operation. Asia has more than 2 billion inhabitants and its peoples speak undetermined number of languages and have widely different traditions, religions and cultures. Most Asiatic peoples are handicapped by a low level of literacy, and by a low per capita income. The continent is very extensive, it constitutes one fourth of the landmass of the globe. These are all factors which form obstacles in the face of co-operation. There are additional obstacles which are generated from the economic and cultural situation in the continent, and these pertain to the libraries themselves, national libraries not excluded, such as the general underdevelopment of the libraries, their meagre financial resources, lack of qualified staff, poverty of organization, etc.

These are all severe obstacles which stand in the way of effective co-operation, but let us not be deterred. Let us make a start and try to overcome these difficulties.

There are several areas for co-operation. However, in order to be practical let us not be over ambitious in our plans. Let us start with limited areas of co-operation and then advance step by step into more ambitious fields, according to our capacities.

The first step is to enable national libraries in Asia and Oceania to know more about one another. The exchange of library catalogues, guides, pamphlets and bibliographic material, the holding of confere... programs for the exchange of personnel etc., are all good vehicles for such mutual acquaintance. (It is proposed for instance, that such a conference as ours be held every five years). The publication of a news-letter on the activities of national libraries every four months and also a directory of national libraries in Asia and Oceania, conduce to the same end.

The making and exchange of bibliographic information and bibliographic tools, which will make the holding of national libraries known to all (including the publication of catalogues in book-form), should be encouraged and efforts should be united to develop bibliographic services in national libraries in Asia and Oceania.

Arrangements should be made for a regular exchange of publications, for inter-library loan, and the photocopying of material and the exchange of microfilms, etc. These are all well known aspects of co-operation. It is not the question of re-iterating them, but of making them live in actual practice. In each national library a good international service should be developed which will be able to cope with all the difficulties that stand in the way. Without good organization and administration, little can be achieved.

On the scale of Asia and Oceania, such services in the national libraries must be complemented by a well-administered international co-ordinating office which will

be able to organize the whole operations of co-operation and exchange of publication, etc.

It is much less difficult to take resolutions in conferences than to implement them. Experience tells us that very good resolutions remained in their files because the organs which were supposed to follow them up and execute them were either non-existent or were weak and lax.

Therefore it appears to be necessary for this conference to decide the establishment of a central office to co-ordinate all aspects of co-operation between national libraries and follow up the execution of resolutions, etc.

It may well be considered in the initial stage of co-operation, and in view of the vast area of Asia and Oceania, that co-operation be intensified among national libraries grouped into regional divisions, e.g. national libraries in the Middle East, South East Asia, Central Asia, Oceania, etc. The number of national libraries involved in each case will be less, making the task easier.

It may be that the development of the resource sharing process in each region should constitute the first logical step for developing further and wider co-operation between all national libraries in Asia and Oceania.

It is important to stress, however, that we do not envisage regional co-operation as a substitute for large international co-operation. It should co-exist with it, but it is presumed to take more ambitious dimensions, which might, in the process of time, tend to be applied on an international scale, in the light of the experience gained. However, some aspects of co-operation such as the exchange of information, must be shared by all national

libraries in the area.

It is certain that this conference will deal with various problems relating to national libraries, such as the encouragement of the establishment of national libraries in countries in which they do not exist, making all national libraries copyright libraries by law, recommending the reduction of high postal tariffs for inter-library operations, the establishment of depository libraries for certain kinds of material, the removal of obstacles in the face of the free access to information and exchange of publications, and finally, perhaps, the establishment of a centre for the training of librarians for the benefit of national libraries and all libraries in Asia and Oceania.

It is hoped that the approach to all these problems will be a realistic one. Whatever resolutions we will take, should be taken with view to execution. The setting up of a well-organized machinery is the prerequisite no. 1 for making sure that our resolutions will see the light, after the conference is over, and the delegates go to their respective libraries to face the challenges of their challenging careers.

LIBRARY NETWORK AND INTER-LIBRARY LOAN

DR K.M. KARIM, Director, Directorate
of Archives and Libraries, Bangladesh.

It is a great privilege on my part to be in your midst this morning to say something on "Library Network and Inter Library Loan". The topic under discussion is vital for a newly emerged nation like Bangladesh. The Library Network is already there; the foundations have been laid; the library, the archive and the documentation infrastructures are built; we are now to raise a superstructure for the sake of progress and prosperity.

None should deny that libraries, documentation centres and archives are all related parts of the information spectrum of a country. But they can not be considered as a single unified element. Each functions in a different setting. National, school, public, university, special libraries and the educational documentation networks play a vital role for education, science, medicine, technology, humanities and culture in a country. School libraries have very great importance as the children learn to use books and libraries and acquire, "functional literacy" thus ensuring that when they leave school they do not relapse into illiteracy or semi-literacy. Closely related are the public libraries that permit the continuous education and re-education in our world of innovation and rapid change. The close coordination of school and public libraries provide the tools for university education. Moreover, the public libraries can serve as supplementary centres for catering text book facilities to the students who constitute a very significant number of readers of our country. The national library is called on to ensure and maintain a co-ordinated library network and for this it should have adequate financial support from the government for these services. The national libraries can have a very wide range of functions including acquisition and conservation of copies of all significant publications published in the country. Thus they act as "deposit library", either by law or under other arrangements. They produce national bibliographies, hold and keep up-to-date large and representative collection of foreign literature including books about the country, act as a national bibliographical information centre, compile union catalogues, and published retrospective bibliographies.

Perhaps the national information system which includes library, archive and documentation network is being developed in our country in line with what is being done in other developing countries with our limited resources.

Already a national library is performing its functions as a deposit library under law in a small building and schemes have been approved for its permanent

building. Meanwhile it strives to compile annual national bibliographies in a situation when copyright regulations are not fairly known and the functions of a national library are inadequately understood. In Bangladesh the Public libraries are being developed with government aid and new public libraries are established by private initiative. The university libraries are also gradually developed in all spheres. The libraries of the ministries and the departments are also getting appropriate attention. Already a large number of special libraries have been set up. A National library can not always perform heavy scientific responsibilities. In that respect the establishment of a national medical library is most welcome. It is heartening to note that a national science library is going to be set up soon. We shall also be very glad to see the setting up of other types of specialised libraries such as a national agriculture library on a national basis. But all these efforts will be fully crowned with success through inter-library good-will and coordination in the field of acquisition and dissemination of knowledge.

At present the libraries can be properly developed with the help of a systematic and coordinated acquisition policy. The country is heavily dependent on foreign publications especially in medicine, science and technology. This is a great burden on our foreign exchange. In such a situation, our acquisition programme can not be competitive, rather it should be complementary to one another. It is true that old edition of science books are often declared outdated. New books, journals, periodicals, abstracts etc. are necessary for research and reference in the field of science and technology. But there are certain basic works on science that can not grow old since they convey certain basic truth and information. Previously books were acquired without any clear-cut programme or without taking into consideration the demand or local needs of the reading public of a locality. Hence there exist many rare collections in a particular library although they do not serve any purpose there. In such a condition it is imperative to make a survey of the resources of school, college, university, public and special libraries by which it will be easier to formulate a definite acquisition policy.

The survey of the existing library resources will readjust the whole aspect of acquisition policy. New acquisition through a central cooperative acquisition programme without any duplication of efforts will further augment the library resources and cater the need of all categories of readers. By now, most of the libraries possess professionally trained librarians. They should, without any loss of time, prepare card catalogues to let the users know what the library possesses. It will also help to prepare a comprehensive union catalogue. Library cooperation and inter-library loans will help the dissemination of information among the users and the researchers as well as it will help the

professional librarian to prepare union catalogues. Inter-library loan system will include the supply of microfilms, microforms and photocopies among the researchers. It should also be mentioned here that the specialised science libraries of our country such as National Medical library and National Science library will undertake the task of different types of documentation work. Their publications may bring for them,on exchange, works on science or medicine from outside according to their needs through the International Book Exchange Centre of the National library.

Undoubtedly the basis for inter-library loan is good-will, cooperation and spirit of dissemination of knowledge. They must exist among all the fellow institutions and the professionals who are engaged in their work there.

A NOTE ON RESOURCE SHARING IN ASIA AND OCEANIA

DR R.K. DAS GUPTA, Director,
National Library of India.

The National Library can organise its activities in the area of international resource sharing and set up a suitable machinery for the purpose only when it has a viable amount of work to be done in this direction. Universities and other learned bodies, government or private, usually obtain material from foreign institutions at their own initiative. It seems, therefore, desirable that all Indian libraries approach the National Library for material in specific areas of study and research to be obtained from foreign libraries and institutions. To be able to handle a business-well through proper staff and equipment it must have quite a sizable amount of business to handle.

I, therefore, suggest that the National Library concern itself with material relating to study and research in arts and social sciences, and the Indian National Scientific Documentation Centre, New Delhi with science and technology, medicine and law being the concern of the Central Medical and Law Library in New Delhi.

These agencies in India will deal with a consortium of five Asian and Oceanic National Libraries.

This system can operate smoothly only when one of these National Libraries take upon itself the role of clearing house for information and documentation. Personally I would welcome that the National Library of Australia very kindly consider assuming this responsibility at least for the first five years. Mathilde V. Rovelstad's observation in the UNESCO Bulletin for Libraries (Vol. XXXII, No 3, May-June 1978) appears to be particularly relevant to the international bearings of the National Libraries in developing countries: "At the moment access to facts of information by necessity seems to be our primary concern. These informational data, however, are only part of those records of human knowledge whose totality Eric Moon stressed in his ALA inaugural address at Detroit, namely 'knowledge, ideas, art, creativity, understanding, pleasure, awareness of self and the world around us.'"

Soon after joining the National Library as its first Director on 1 July, 1977 I discovered that the first important task of the Library in respect of its holdings was to draw up and execute a programme of restrospective collection. Our holdings in any particular discipline have too many unfortunate gaps and these gaps can be filled in most cases only by microfilm or xerox copies of books available in other libraries. Even in the field of Indian studies we

are required to obtain from foreign libraries microfilm or xerox copies of a large number of works which are long out-of-print and may not ever be reprinted, but which are nevertheless indispensable source material for scholars in this area. We can acquire such material from other National Libraries fairly smoothly when we decide to do so through one particular National Library which can be treated as a kind of clearing house for the purpose.

After resource sharing for retrospective collection I would suggest an information system to enable the National Libraries of Asia to keep track of current works on various aspects of Asian civilization published as books or articles and papers in different languages. An Indian scholar working on Indian or Asian history now necessarily depends upon English sources and who has no knowledge of what work is being done in the field by scholars writing in Chinese, Japanese, Burmese or Ceylonese. To give an international dimension to Asian learning we may now think of devising a system which would enable our National Libraries to help our scholars in extending their bibliography beyond works published in English or some major European languages. For resource sharing in this area we will require a current bibliography which again can be compiled by one particular National Library with the co-operation of others.

History

The National Library was founded in 1903 in Calcutta as the Imperial Library by the Imperial Library Act of 1902. The Library took over the holdings of the Imperial Secretariat Library then situated in Calcutta and of the Calcutta Public Library founded in 1836. It was therefore necessary for the Imperial Library to retain some of the features of a departmental Library and a public library.

The Imperial Library was renamed as the National Library, Calcutta by an act passed by the Indian Constituent Assembly in 1948.

The National Library of India Act of 1976 which gave the National Library the status of an autonomous body to be managed by a Board and an Executive Council, is yet to come into force.

Governance

The National Library is now a Subordinate Office of the Union Ministry of Education and is headed by a Director. Recently the Ministry has appointed a National Library Advisory Committee to advise the Government about the Structure, function and governance of the Library with Dr (Mrs) Kapila Vatsyayan as Chairman and the National Library's Director as Member-Secretary. One of

the three other members of the Committee is Mr B.R. Nanda, Director of the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi.

Staff

The Library has a staff of about 800 amongst whom 216 are professional librarians, that is they hold Bachelor Degree in Arts, Science etc. and a Degree or a Diploma in Library Science. The post of Librarian is now vacant and an appointment is likely to be made through the Union Public Service Commission next month.

Holdings

The National Library has 1.7 million books, 700 journals, 600,000 Indian and foreign official documents, 72,000 maps and 30,000 manuscripts. The Library receives only about 20,000 books and 18,000 periodicals under the Delivery of Books and Periodicals Act of 1954 as amended in 1956.

Number of Users

The Library has 12,000 holders of Reading Room tickets and 27,000 holders of Lending tickets.

Seats

The Library has 500 seats in its two buildings in the campus and a Reading Room in the city.

Issue of Books

Reading Room ... 1200 per day
Lending Section ... 250 per day

Shelf-space

30 running miles.

Purchase of Books

The Library purchased about 9000 books mostly in English and published in the Anglo-Saxon world in the last financial year, that is 1 April, 1978 to 31 March, 1979.

Area

The total area of the Library campus is 30 acres and the carpet area of its four buildings is 226,611 sq. ft.

International Service

During the last financial year the National Library lent 26 books to foreign

countries and borrowed 8 books from foreign countries. During the same year the National Library produced 2036 microfilms, 7 photo-copies, 1068 xerox copies for foreign institutions and scholars.

DEVELOPMENT OF RESOURCE SHARING THROUGH EXISTING INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

MR INEMATULLAH BEGG, Librarian, Liaquat Hall Library,
Karachi, Pakistan.

Development of Resource Sharing at national and international level means mobilizing all library resources through all possible ways and means to meet the needs of the reader. Irrespective of the classification of library as County, Rural, Urban, School, University, Public or Special Library, which all are respected and without regard to the class of reader who is equally respectable, the primary purpose of this Conference, I believe, is to look for such policies to prepare a Master Plan in order to establish freer access to information in all fields of knowledge for all readers. This has become absolutely needed in view of the Scientific and Technological development as well as rapid changes in the socio-cultural approaches and attitudes of the world society today.

The Asian nations need more resource sharing and library cooperation by the libraries and agencies of the advanced and developed countries today than ever before. In this respect, I would like to mention here that we are doing our best to meet the demands of our reader with the help of our own national resources. We are maintaining Inter-library service at city, university and country level, and I thank the sponsors of the International Programs, which are sources of mutual communication and sharing ideas in search of better ways and means to satisfy our readers. These agencies such as UNESCO, IFLA and Council of National Libraries have played an appreciable role in the development of further sharing of resources. UNESCO has maintained a regional office and helps us in our educational and library services program, so do other International Agencies.

In spite of all these appreciable efforts by the International Agencies, we still feel that a lot more is needed to be done in the field of resource sharing That is, in addition to offering advisory services, holding seminars and group discussions once in a year or two, we need technical advice and material support on a continuous basis for the development of a comprehensive country-wide library system. In this connection, I place a few suggestions before the Conference that might be helpful in furthering our efforts towards establishment of an effective system of library

resources and services. With our limited resources, we, the developing nations, cannot afford to equip our public libraries with the modern technical devices and computerised information service.

In addition to the supply of printed reading material, we need to equip our public and university libraries with:

1. Photo copier
2. Video recording
3. Audio-visual materials
4. Films
5. Computer based information on general science, technology, medical science, etc.
6. Refresher Courses or short-term training facilities at Foreign public libraries.

It is further proposed that:

i) An Evaluation Committee be appointed at this Conference, comprising of experienced librarians. This Committee should be entrusted with the responsibility to study and evaluate requirements of Public Libraries in countries of Asia and Oceana, with the help and cooperation of national libraries and representatives of International Programs working already there.

ii) A special fund be raised with the cooperation of developed countries and International Agencies to assist those libraries in their development program where needed.

iii) A newsletter regarding further development of resource sharing through International Programs be brought out quarterly and circulated to all national libraries in Asia and Oceana.

iv) Case-study program under International guidance should be introduced in big cities to examine possibility of further developing resource sharing.

v) International Agencies offering assistance in Resource Sharing should contact public librarians through proper government agencies for securing national assistance and cooperation in their projects, especially case-study programs.

vi) Proceedings of this Conference should provide a guideline for the participating librarians to survey, examine and recommend possibility of International assistance in certain areas.

vii) The Universities offering Master's degree in Library Science in developing countries should be consulted with regard to their syllabi and teaching aids available and if requested these be supplemented through International assistance.

viii) With the increasing educational programs in developing countries, in order to promote reading habit among the students, the school/college/university libraries should form part of the network designed to develop Resource Sharing with national public libraries in cooperation with assistance programs sponsored by International Agencies and Foreign Public Libraries.

To sum up, it is very significant to improve and develop response to quench the thirst of the reader who expects libraries capable to answer his or her question of national or International nature with authority and evidence.

The International programs sponsored and managed by International Agencies are doing magnificent work in the development programs with the cooperation of host countries in Asia. These programs have produced healthy results in respective areas particularly in the field of education. If these agencies supplement their efforts, our goal of further developing resource sharing in Asia and Oceana will certainly be achieved soon.

At this stage, I should point out that countries in Asia do possess invaluable resource material and information in the shape of historical and cultural background of nations who lived in those areas several thousands of years ago. For example in Pakistan, Moenjodaro, Harrappa and the Ghandar Art. These and efforts of our people to keep pace with the developed nations, offer a multiple opportunity for the development of resource sharing at international level.

To conclude, I am most grateful to all the participants for listening to me patiently. I am grateful to the sponsors of this Conference and

and particularly to Dr G. Chandler, Director-General and Executive Member of the Council, National Library of Australia, Canberra and to the Australian Government for providing this unique opportunity of listening to such a fine group of learned people and share with their valued ideas. I also thank the organisers and workers for arranging this beautiful and very attractive Conference and the exhibition.

Thank you.

INDONESIA: COOPERATIVE PROGRAMMES IN INFORMATION

MISS MASTINI HARDJO PRAKOSO, Director, National
Museum Library, Jakarta.

Background information

Indonesia is the only country in Southeast Asia that has not yet established a National Library. However, the idea of information system and services has been introduced in 1971 when a Workshop on Documentation and information Network System was held. It was recognized that users received limited services from existing libraries and centres. The result of the workshop was an agreement to develop a national network system for library, documentation and information services. It was agreed :

1. To create national centres, acting as national focal points.
2. To sternghten special libraries as supporting units of the national centres.
3. To upgrade manpower of existing libraries in order to improve national services.

Four national centres have been assigned to provide national services in their respective fields of specialization :

1. Bibliotheca Bogoriensis, Dept. of Agriculture, for biology and agriculture.
2. National Scientific Documentation Centre, Institute of Sciences, for sciences and technology.
3. Central Health Library, Dept. of Health, for health and medicine.
4. The fourth Centre would be for Humanities and Social Sciences. This one has not been officially assigned. According to plan it should be the responsibility of the National Library which is still in the process of establishment.

Originally this fourth centre was started as a special project of the Institute of Sciences. But now it is being continued by the National Scientific Documentation Centre of the Institute of Sciences untill the National Library has

been established which will absorb the responsibility of this Fourth Centre. A small team assigned by the Development Planning Agency (BAPPENAS) has already completed the plan of an integrated library and information system in Indonesia which will include the National Library. In this regard the draft of the law concerning this matter has also been finalized. During the Dutch Colonial Government the Central Museum Library had according to the then existing Act been the depository library for all Indonesian imprints. No wonder that up to World War II this library had the most complete collection of Indonesian materials. Its collection covers mainly publications in the field of social sciences and humanities, although there are materials in other fields too.

Taking into account its history and the magnitude of its holdings of books and other materials, the Central Museum Library may be considered as a suitable nucleus of the future National Library.

During the Japanese Occupation of Indonesia between 1942 and 1945, Japanese government publications during that period were also deposited at the same library.

Although after World War II the afore mentioned Act is no more in operation, because it has not yet been adjusted to the present situation. This does not mean that nothing has been done. To overbridge this gap some government bodies (Departments) have been able to have ministerial decrees passed in order to deposit publications in their respective fields of responsibilities to the library or centre assigned.

The above centres are not at the same level of development. Their collections as well as their services are not of equal strenght and standard either. They are engaged in document loans, reference and referral services, literature search requests, reprographic services and publication of bibliographies. Information through library, documentation and archive services is still in its promoting stage. Their services are open for the use of any individual or institute as well as organization in Indonesia and also abroad.

Special libraries spread all over the country constitute supporting units of

the centres which perform services too. In reverse, the centres are responsible for support and guidance to them.

Since the centres have been appointed, many meetings have been conducted in the form of seminars and workshops in order to improve the organization and management of the national system. The shortage of professional staff still constitutes a handicap.

The Proposed National Programme for an integrated Library and Information Service

Aims of the national programme :

1. To ensure library and information services for every level of users community.
2. To strenghten existing sources and resources in order to improve progressively information storage and dissemination.
3. To develop a national policy of management system based on a law.
4. To develop continually the education and training programme of professional librarians, documentalists and information scientists.
5. To determine a national policy system of publication management.
   A standard system of publication, storage and dissemination of books, journals etc. is needed to ensure the completeness of Indonesian publications in the country.

Therefore close and proper coordination is needed for the implementation of the programme on national as well as provincial level, among libraries and centres.

Through an integrated programme the national centres mentioned above have the task :

1. To develop national collection in their respective field of interest.
2. To improve national services.
3. To support training programme in library information.

4. To develop and stimulate the application of standards.
5. To evaluate users need.
6. To maintain close relations with other national programmes.
7. To support R & D programmes.
8. To publish reference source.

Some of the supporting units such as in the field of law, Indonesian literature and economics are going to be developed into a centre.
The proposed National Programme has mentioned the establishment of a committee or body in charge of determining library and information policy priorities. But it has not yet been realized. As long as this body has not been established, the task to coordinate activities and directing objectives is partly undertaken by the PDIN. (National Scientific Documentation Centre). The application of modern methodology and technology to replace the traditional and familiar methods for improving the national system are prob ems to be studied carefully before their implementaion.

Regional Cooperation Programmes

It is recognized that there are many aspects of information services which could be benefited from a regional approach. Since the historic event in 1970, when the first CONSAL (Congress of Southeast Asian Librarians) was held in Singapore, communication among librarians in those countries has been improved, although language barrier still constitutes an obstruction. There has been four CONSAL's meetings held in different cities within the ASEAN countries (Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand). Recognizing the relevance of information produced in this region in solving common problems, the National Libraries of the four countries and the National Documentation Centre of Indonesia form a consortium, referred to as NLDC-SEA. Its objectives as agreed at their meeting are :

1. to provide access to all library materials excepting classified items, emanating from countries of the Consortium at reasonable cost and within reasonable time, such access to be facilitated through interlibrary

loans, provision of photocopies/microforms and assistance in procurement.

2. to promote and coordinate the acquisition within each country of library materials of the region deemed to be of continuing importance.
3. to ensure that the national output of library materials is recorded promtly in the national bibliography, issued in accordance with international standards and in a format which will facilitate the creation of a regional MARC tape which would in turn improve bibliographic control within the region and the availability of library materials.
4. to create in each NLDC a register of translations of publications from local languages into languages of broader distribution.
5. to create a pool of trained manpower by establishing a programme of continuing staff training and the exchange of staff between NLDCs.
6. to initiate action to reduce barriers to the free flow of library materials within the region by :
   a. drawing the attention of member governments to the provisions of the Florence and other agreements and of the need to adopt and implement these provisions and
   b. requesting the respective governments, ASEAN National Secretariats and othet appropriate bodies to consider and introduce preferential postal, shipping, customs and other arrangements in respect of the movement of library materials among the NLDCs.
7. to provide regular monitoring of the operations of the Consortium in order to evaluate and improve access to library materials.
8. to establish effective communication channels among the NLDCs through telex and other appropriate means in order to realise the objectives of the Consortium.

Preliminary efforts are being made in initiating a programme of resource sharing in the utilization of information produced in this region.
The problem of professionals shortage which is a critical factor influencing the development of joint regional programmes should be overcome.

Training should be given high priority.

The need for some mechanism to promote, monitor and co-ordinate regional activities in Southeast Asia is recognized, only the way to achieve this is by not yet clear.

Conclusions

The infrastructure under which the national information system and services has to operate is however still weak. Guidelines for the development of this system have been enacted, nevertheles the programme often get to be altered in the approaches as well as detail execution, because of changing conditions with regard to sources and resources.

The development of information manpower is an urgent task in the development of national information infrastructure. This factor should obtain top priority-.

New approaches and types of services seem necessary in developing information services for technology transfer. It is probably in this area in which the system needs expert assistance. It is desirable to provide guidelines for proper budgeting. An Advisory Committee which is still missing should be established soonest to determine library and information policy priorities.

It was recognized that regional activities are assigned to support and strengthten national facilities and programmes and to provide linkages among them in appropriate areas. Cooperative programme activities can be started on the basis of a series of bilateral activities which develop to a more broader programme. The development of Domestic Satellite communication system, Palapa I launched in 1976 and covering the region of Southeast Asia, could greatly facilitate communications and the provision of services.

A telex will be installed in PDIN within a short time. This might be suitable for joint programmes in Southeast Asia, and with neighbouring regions.

The smoothness of the services and development of the system depends finally on the behaviour of people involved.

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RESOURCE SHARING: EXISTING ARRANGEMENTS AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

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INTRODUCTION

The Concise Oxford Dictionary defines a resource as a "means of supplying what is needed" or "stock that can be drawn on". Interpreted in the narrow sense, the term "resource" in relation to libraries therefore could refer to the documentary resources of published and unpublished materials in a library, whether in book or non-book form. In a wider sense, "resource" could also be extended to cover human resources of staff, the equipment and facilities of an organization or the services provided. All these elements, whether human or material, are capable of being shared either at the national, regional or international level. However before embarking on any resource sharing programmes, it is vitally important:

(i) to establish realistic objectives or goals

(ii) to determine the basis on which such resource sharing is to take place

Librarians on the whole tend to be favourably inclined towards the idea of resource sharing, particularly at the national level and particularly in situations in which the libraries concerned are publicly funded institutions. Motivation for involvement in resource sharing however can vary greatly from cost reduction considerations to considerations of improving efficiency. However when resource sharing is extended beyond national frontiers and schemes are promulgated on a regional or international basis, for which a formal country or institutional commitment is required, such schemes have invariably to be referred to Government and to administrative

and financial authorities who will be concerned:

(i) with the cost-benefit aspects of the scheme

(ii) as to how the scheme fits in with national priorities

(iii) with the implications of the scheme in relation to the Government's political, economic or trade relations with the country or countries concerned

Librarians sometimes fail to appreciate that there are important considerations completely beyond the pale of books, resources and libraries. Bearing in mind the foregoing considerations, this paper touches briefly on what is happening and on what might be possible in resource sharing, largely in the context of Malaysia.

EXISTING ARRANGEMENTS

National level

In Malaysia at the present time, the most concrete manifestation of resource sharing takes the form of inter-library lending based on the Malaysian Inter-Library Loan Code. The term inter-library loan here covers not only the actual lending of books and other materials but also the supply of micro or photocopies. Although most libraries subscribe to the principle of inter lending, many of them do not have the back-up facilities of a photocopier and only a few have microcopying facilities. Thus most of the traffic in interlending is between the larger libraries, particularly the University libraries, the National Library and the larger special libraries. Within the public library and school library sector, inter lending is relatively rare. Even among the larger libraries, inter lending is minimal despite the provision of a van circulating service using vans from the National Library, the Universiti Pertanian and the Universiti Kebangsaan which are provided three days a week and move on a predetermined route within and around the Federal Capital of Kuala Lumpur

collecting and delivering materials. The low level of inter lending however does not imply a richness of individual collections. Even the University of Malaya, after nearly 20 years of collection growth and development has been able to amass a collection of over 600,000 volumes. The collections of University Kebangsaan after nearly ten years is around 200,000 volumes, the Universiti Sains has about 160,000, the National Library about 120,000, the Selangor and Sabah public library systems have over 150,000 each but in most other institutions, the collections are below 100,000. The low level of inter lending is perhaps more the result of a disenchantment with the responses from individual institutions to requests made. Many institutions ascribe a lower priority to requests made by other institutions. This is a highly short-sighted attitude particularly when viewed in the national context. Any bona fide request, no matter where originating from must be treated with despatch, no matter how the materials are ultimately channeled to the individual concerned. Resouces, particularly of publicly funded institutions, should be treated as part of the total national resource and access to them, including speed of access must be facilitated. Narrow institutional restrictions should be discouraged by the respective chief executives concerned and staff should be briefed appropriately.

Over the last few years however, the concept of resource sharing has been extended further with the establishment of the Research Library Network, comprising of the libraries of the University of Malaya, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Universiti Pertanian Malaysia, Universiti Teknoloji Malaysia and the National Library of Malaysia. The institutions comprising the network are involved in two major projects:

(i) The MALMARC (Malaysian MARC) Project

This project is the outcome of a feasibility study by

Stephen Massil in 1977 and is based on the MARC data base (LC and BNB) from 1950 onwards which has been purchased cooperatively by the institutions concerned. The data base is maintained at the Computer Centre at Universiti Sains Malaysia and its major outputs include a COM Union catalogue as well as institutional sub-files (Catalogues) by author, title, subject and shelf list. At a later stage the production of the Malaysian national bibliography is also envisaged under this project.

(ii) The PERPUNET Project

This project involves the maintenance of a Serials Data Base, consisting of inputs on a cooperative basis of the holdings and locations information of approximately 15,000 serial titles listed in the Malaysian Union List of Serials published by the National Library.

At the present time most of the costs associated with the MALMARC Project are being borne by the Universiti Sains Malaysia with some financial assistance from UNESCO while costs related to the PERPUNET project are being underwritten by Universiti Sains Malaysia. This is however only for the experimental period. Once detailed costing has been worked out, services will be provided on the basis of a subscription and other institutions outside the present network will also be able to benefit from the resource sharing programmes. The term 'network' may perhaps be a little premature here since the institutions involved have agreed to participate during the experimental phase only. Even then, participation has to a large extent been possible because external funding has been made available. So long as no financial commitment has been required of each

institution, cooperation and involvement continued.However faced with the reality of having to share the cost of purchase of the data base, two of the six institutions have had to opt out, hopefully, for a temporary period only. It is interesting to observe here that the institutions which have opted out are headed by professionals who constitute a part of the post-seventy generation of librarians as compared to their professional counterparts who head the other institutions. This "generation gap" perhaps underscores the importance of the human element and human relationships in any arrangements for resource sharing - whether human or material. The need for periodic contact and liaison must be carefully nurtured and built into the system. At the national level, this may not be too difficult, particularly in smaller countries. However at the international or regional level, this may prove to be quite a problem.

Another feature of the network is the implementation of a cooperative acquisitions programme. Although this scheme was mooted in the Report by Dr. Bjorn Tell in May 1976, three years later (May, 1979) the scheme has not got off the ground and one wonders if it ever will. A cooperative acquisitions programme implies a commitment on the part of participating institutions to a coverage of particular subject areas over and beyond its normal interest and levels and it implies a willingness to make these resources available beyond the confines of the institution. Here too it is pertinent to observe that the scheme came to be vigorously pursued only when institutions began to face serious budget cuts. Budget cuts still continue, but the scheme is nowhere near realization. Perhaps what is really needed is a more modest target. Countries need access to the world store of information only to the extent of their absorption capacity. But what formulae should we apply to determine this absorption capacity? This is clearly related to literacy levels, language competency,

research, teaching and other factors. Often however libraries purchase as much as the funds provided will allow and hence it is not unusual to find that a proportion of the collections in many libraries have never ever been used. The resources in any country consist of materials generated within the country and those acquired from the world store of information. Those materials from the world store that countries need permanent access to, they may have no option but to acquire but those materials that they need only passing or occasional access to, resource sharing arrangements could be arranged. Cooperative acquisitions programmes however are essentially a national or a regional (within a country) consideration.

In order to make effective a resource sharing programme, it is necessary to establish as many channels of communication as possible. In most cases, the telecommunications and postal services of a country have been the major channels of communication used. In Malaysia however, at least within the Research Library Network, telex facilities have recently been installed. This has greatly facilitated communication between the institutions concerned and should progressively result in the increased access and use of the collective resources.

Regional/International level

Resource sharing at the regional/international level has taken several forms and tends to be on a more formalised basis. The most significant developments involving Malaysia are the following:

(i) ISDS-SEA (International Serials Data System - South East Asia). This is a regional node of ISDS and is located in the National Library of Thailand, Bangkok. Participating institutions linked to the regional centre by formal approval of the respective Governments include the National Documentation Centre of Indonesia,

the National Libraries of Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand and the National Science Development Board of the Philippines. The regional centre at Bangkok is funded entirely by the Thai Government with some financial assistance from IDRC and Unesco. The participating institutions assign ISSNs to national serials titles and prepare ISDS input sheets for processing by the regional centre for incorporation in the ISDS international register. Attempts are now being made to utilize the ISDS international register to facilitate:

(a) the creation of a regional union list of serials (local and foreign)

(b) the creation of a regional data base of national serial titles with target audience specification according to a simplified coding agreed upon.

(ii) NLDC-SEA (National Libraries and Documentation Centres - South East Asia). This is a consortium, comprising the National Libraries of Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and the National Documentation Centre of Indonesia, being established by formal approval of the Governments concerned. IDRC provides financial assistance for the operation of the Consortium for a three year period after which participating countries are expected to underwrite the costs. The basic objectives of the Consortium are:

"to develop an inter-library exchange network for the

national libraries of Southeast Asia with a view to providing each participating library with access to the collections of national imprints and specifically:

(a) to ensure the acquisition within each country of national imprints deemed to be of continuing importance; to permit throughout the region access to all imprints (except classified items) emanating from member countries of the Consortium, at reasonable cost and within reasonable time, through inter-library loans, or through the provision of photocopies or microforms;

(b) to promote the prompt recording of national imprints in national bibliographies in accordance with international standards and in a format in accordance with international standards, which will facilitate the creation of a regional magnetic tape service to improve bibliographic control and the availability of library materials within the region;

(c) to create in each participating library a register of publications translated from local languages into languages of broader distribution;

(d) to initiate action to reduce barriers to the free flow of library materials within the region by:

(i) requesting governments of member countries, ASEAN national secretariats and other

appropriate bodies to introduce preferential postal, shipping, customs and other arrangements in respect of the movement of library materials among the participating libraries;

(ii) encouraging governments of member countries to adopt and implement provisions of the Unesco Florence Agreement and other agreements fostering international exchange of information;

(e) to establish effective communication channels among the participating libraries through telex and other appropriate means in order to realize the objectives of the Consortium;

(f) to provide for the regular monitoring of the operations of the Consortium in order to evaluate and improve access to library materials, and

(g) to encourage the setting up of a network of institutions within each member country, with the participating library of the member country acting as the centre of the network, in order to facilitate the movement of materials from outside the member country to the constituent institutions of each network and to identify within each member country materials that are of value to the participating libraries of the other member countries."

NLDC-SEA is now partly operational. Most of the institutions involved have appointed Consortium-liaison officers, some have already installed telex and a traffic is already building up for the transmission of documents or information.

(iii) AGRIS. Malaysia participates in AGRIS. Effective from March, 1979, the National AGRIS Centre for Malaysia, located at the National Library has been transferred to the Library of Universiti Pertanian Malaysia. Despite this however, the preparation of input-sheets in respect of Malaysian agricultural information continues to be coordinated by the National Library and undertaken cooperatively by the University Pertanian Malaysia, the Rubber Research Institute and the National Library. An agricultural literature service on a limited scale is provided by Universiti Pertanian Malaysia to agricultural scientists in the country and other services are expected to be developed on the basis of the AGRIS tapes. AGRIS input sheets generated in Malaysia are processed by AIBA (Agricultural Information Bank for Asia) located at SEARCA (South East Asian Regional Centre for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture) in Los Banos, Philippines. AIBA is funded entirely by the Philippine government with some financial assistance from IDRC. Other countries in the region are not in any way required to support financially in its operations. Instead the regional centre provides grants to national centres to assist and upgrade the level of their operations. Outputs from the

system include AGRINDEX in conventional published form, the AGRIS tapes (not yet received or utilized in Malaysia) and AGRIASIA, also published in conventional form. The system will shortly also produce the Malaysian Bibliography of Agriculture.

(iv) Other computerized data bases. With the increasing availability of computer facilities, libraries in the region are becoming more conscious of subject or mission oriented computerized data bases and the possibility of accessing these as economically and as efficiently as possible. With this objective in mind, the CONSAL (Congress of Southeast East Asian Librarians) Executive Board, which includes representatives of the National Libraries of Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, the National Documentation Centre of Indonesia and the Library Associations of the countries concerned, has agreed to a feasibility study to be undertaken by the AIT (Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok) on improving access to international computerized data bases of interest to countries of Southeast Asia with particular reference to CONSAL member countries. The feasibility study will involve the following:

(1) utilizing the NTIS, SCI and SSCI databases through the CAN/SDI and ISIS software packages;

(2) developing experimental standard and personalized SDI services for a two-year period within the region

(3) undertaking retrospective searches on a request basis for a two year period within the region

(4) preparing a detailed report, inclusive of costing for the consideration of CONSAL

(5) making available the complete software package to CONSAL for distribution to member countries subject to agreement by Unesco;

(6) mounting a demonstration at CONSAL V in Kuala Lumpur in 1981.

(7) making available short-term Fellowships to CONSAL member countries during the period of the feasibility study for training and the transfer of technological knowledge.

All costs in respect of the feasibility study are being underwritten by AIT.

It is perhaps worth pointing out here that two of the regional programmes, namely ISDS-SEA and NLDC-SEA, involve largely the National Libraries of the countries concerned. National libraries are also represented on the CONSAL Executive Board (which fully supported the AIT feasibility studies), invariably by their chief executives. Whether cooperation and resource sharing on the regional front has been possible because of institutional homogeneity or whether it has been possible because of long standing personal ties between the chief executives concerned is difficult to determine. If the latter has been the predominant factor, then the system has inherent weaknesses. However this has been largely compensated for by the fact that country and institutional commitment has been determined at high levels of government and has been formalized. The removal of a key individual will not necessarily undermine the system especially if the succession within the institution has been inducted into the system. Indirectly, CONSAL has helped greatly in all this by providing

a regional forum in Singapore (1970), Manila (1973), Jakarta (1975), Bangkok (1978) and Kuala Lumpur (scheduled for 1981) where individuals have been able to meet, to discuss common problems and to forge ties that in many cases transcend national frontiers, cultures and backgrounds. Although the fostering of such ties is not strictly a professional consideration, it is of the greatest importance and should be carefully nurtured whenever the opportunity presents itself. Developing the best library and information systems in the world will be completely meaningless if we allow human prejudice and ignorance to destroy it all in international conflict.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

Resource sharing at the national level and to some extent at the regional and international level is clearly feasible although its potential is yet to be fully exploited. At the national level many more developments are possible but these will not be discussed in this brief paper. Suffice it to say that at the national level, the mechanisms afforded by various bodies such as the Conference of University Libraries and the National Library (PERPUN), the Malaysian Library Association (P.P.M.), and the National Library can be relied upon to bring about progressively, more effective resource sharing within the country. At the regional level, the mechanisms afforded by the NLDC-SEA, the CONSAL Executive Board, the IFLA Section on Regional Activities: Asia and other bodies should be taken advantage of. Similarly at the international level, the Conference of Directors of National Libraries, Unesco, IFLA, FID and other agencies should be taken advantage of. Some of the developments worth considering would include the following:

(i) The Australian MARC. The primary question here is whether it would be advantageous to acquire the Australian MARC data

base in its entirety to be maintained at the Universiti Sains Malaysia for the use of the Research Library Network. This is to some extent dependent upon:

(a) the extent of duplication of records between the Australian MARC and the LC and BNB MARC tapes, and

(b) the volume of acquisition of Australian publications by institutions within the network.

If the Australian MARC tapes are to be used mainly for the processing of Australian publications acquired by institutions within the country, then the volume of such acquisitions would certainly be a primary consideration. If on the other hand it is to be used as a data base of records in the English language, then the consideration of the duplication of records between the various MARC (L.C., BNB. Australian) data bases must be given due consideration. MALMARC (Malaysian MARC) for example is basically a union catalogue of the current acquisitions, largely of English language material, of the six participating institutions. At the present time, the input of local records into MALMARC is limited. It can be safely estimated therefore that 80% of the records in MALMARC are already in the LC or BNB MARC. If the Australian MARC similarly includes a large proportion of non-Australian imprints of English language material, then MALMARC and AUSMARC (if I might be permitted to use the acronym) could be highly duplicative. Perhaps the exchange of MALMARC and AUSMARC on a trial basis could be implemented to assess its usefulness

to both countries. Here the question of compatibility arises and the need for adherence to a common communication format. In the light of earlier discussion in this paper, this would be in the nature of a bilateral arrangement.

(ii) International computerized data bases.

At the present time there is insufficient information on the problems of accessing the various international computerized data bases. The feasibility study to be undertaken by AIT for CONSAL will prove useful. It would also be most profitable if a survey could be undertaken to establish the existence of international computerized data bases in national libraries or other institutions within a specific geographic region. For example, if there are institutions in Australia which maintain or have direct access to such data bases, or to data bases which have been created locally, such as BISA it would be useful if other institutions or countries within the geographic region could also have access to them, and the conditions and costs of such access. The possibility of making available software should similarly be considered.

(iii) Union lists/indexes of serials. This is an aspect of resource sharing that could be implemented at different levels. The exchange of published union lists or indexes to serials could be introduced at a more conventional level. At a more sophisticated level, the creation of a regional data base of serial titles (with national or foreign imprints) as well as a regional index to periodicals would be invaluable. In respect of the former, the projects

initiated by ISDS-SEA would prove beneficial. The regional index to periodicals however may take a longer time since a common communication format for analytics has not been implemented yet. The ISBD (Analytics) has not been finalised or distributed by the IFLA International Office for UBC yet.

(iv) National bibliographies. The exchange of national bibliographic records, either in conventionally published form or in computer tape could also be usefully implemented. The Bibliografi Negara Malaysia (Malaysian National Bibliography) is published quarterly with an annual cumulation. Materials included are catalogued in accordance with AACR II and ISBD and are classified according to the Dewey, 18th ed. It is tentatively hoped to computerise the national bibliography by 1980.

(v) Exchange of official publications. This is yet another aspect of resource sharing which could be implemented between national libraries. The National Library of Malaysia is prepared to make available on an exchange basis all its government publications which are not of a confidential or restricted nature. This exchange programme is now being implemented with selected countries and could be extended to Australia which now has several institutions with research interests in Malaysia and Indonesia. A list of approximately 89 items, inclusive of all major official serials, is available for selection purposes.

(vi) Inter-library loan. One of the many functions of the

National Library of Malaysia is:

> "to act as the agency for the national and international lending and exchange of library material"

The National Library has hitherto only lent or borrowed material or purchased microcopies at the international level for its own purposes. Academic and special libraries in the country have also been using their own channels of communication to obtain desired materials from abroad. Requests made by these institutions are normally transmitted by post. Since the institutions within the network are now equipped with telex, the communication of requests could be speeded up. The National Library is prepared to make its telex facilities available to other libraries in the country for the loan or acquisition of relevant material and it is also prepared to function as a switching centre to refer requests from abroad to relevant institutions for the supply of materials. However efficiency in the transmission of requests takes care of only part of the problem. The real crux lies in the efficient and speedy supply of the desired materials. This is of course a two-way process. While we can speed up the transmission of requests, delays often occur in the supply of materials requested. Understandably, there are necessary tasks to be performed on receipt of a request. This will include search and bibliographical verification if necessary, establishing location either within the switching centre or elsewhere, arranging for

a copy to be lent if possible or for a microform or photocopy to be made and finally the billing, packing and posting of the relevant material. However institutional responses tend to vary greatly. Some, such as the BLLD provide an efficient service and get innundated as a result. Many respond (if at all) in a more cavalier fashion.

Suggestions have been made in the past regarding the possibility of creating a BLLD-type facility to serve the Southeast Asian Region. In fact the NLDC-SEA consortium began on this premise. However this idea was not favourably received within the region since it seemed unlikely that any one Government or group of Governments would be willing to sanction the hugh cost of setting up and operating such an establishment. However whether such a facility could be set up in Australia, based on the considerable resources of the National Library, the University of Sydney, the Australian National University or the collective resources of all of them is a matter for consideration. This could reduce the load for the BLLD, lead to a form of regional specialization and improve overall efficiency. It might be worth examining the feasibility of establishing within Australia an International Lending Library for Asia and Oceania (ILLAO). Perhaps the Conference of Directors of National Libraries or the National Library of Australia should take the necessary initiatives in this.

The concept of UAP (universal availability of publications) which IFLA has been giving increasing emphasis to, must be

made meaningful. The creation of the documentary resources, bibliographic data bases and arrangements or agreements to share resources and facilitate access must be backed by an efficient system for the supply or movement of the document from supply source to request originator. Unesco conventions in the past have been concerned with the free flow of information. These should be revised, brought to the attention of Unesco member states and implemented. At the same time, the revisions should also consider not only the free flow but also the efficient flow of information. This will involve some consideration of postal and telecommunications facilities at national and international level and the possibility of introducing preferential rates and priority treatment for the movement of books or documentary materials.

(vii) training. This is again a possible area for resource sharing. However the term training is restricted in this paper to post qualified training only. There are two ways in which this could be done:

(a) by sending individuals in need of training to specific institutions abroad for short-term periods

(b) by bringing in specialists from abroad to conduct short term courses in specific fields

The latter could be more productive and economically more feasible, although provision should also be made for the former. National Libraries should attempt to monitor the

movement of individuals with specialist skills in or out of a country so that their presence could be taken advantage of for dialogs, discussions, talks, seminars and also courses, provided sufficient notice is given. In this manner, additional expenditure is not unnecessarily incurred in air fares. However international aid agencies could also be approached to bring in a specific individual at a specified time, who would not otherwise be likely to visit or pass through the country concerned.

CONCLUSION

From the foregoing, it will be clear that there is considerable interest in Malaysia in the idea of sharing resources. Government investment in libraries - both capital and recurrent has increased substantially over the years. There is an increasing concern now with an assessment of how effective that investment has been. The need to improve efficiency, without a corresponding increase in budgetary provisions, implies an increasing tendency towards cooperative arrangements and the sharing of resources. Malaysia is prepared to consider and commence a dialog on any resource sharing programme at the regional or international level likely to be of benefit to the country.

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SOME POINTERS ON RESOURCE SHARING IN ASIA AND OCEANIA

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I am here to offer a few pointers on the general theme of our Conference. In the vast and complex Asian and Oceanic environment we all live in, there are external and internal pressures that have coalesced in a mutually reinforcing manner to create an atmosphere that is more receptive to resource sharing. First and foremost of these is the availability of modern technology ranging from photocopying machines to computers. Another is the proliferation of research institutions and the establishment of new universities and colleges which, of course, have brought about the unprecedented increase of users' demands for all types of resource items. Fiscal restraints, inflationary trends, duplicative work and facilities also impel us to undergo a re-orientation of the old concept of our mission in society. We cannot afford to go on with the traditional library work. It is too costly, too labor intensive, and on many occasions, does not match with our user's urgent needs.

As I see it, the time is propitious for a creation of a cooperative program on resource sharing considering the limited resources in money and the least resources in highly trained staff that many of us suffer from. Resource sharing, as a form of international cooperation in library service, is not only beneficial but also a necessity for us. It is in this context that John Donne's famous words aptly apply to our respective national institution. We cannot exist alone and continue to compete to be the best. The destructive type of institutional rivalry is "a thing of the past". Small institutions with meager collections have also something to contribute to resource sharing program. We are now leaving the era of parochialism and entering into a new period of international library cooperation.

In our Conference, we have to think about formal arrangements, embodying basic objectives of resource sharing, and the appropriate structure and machanism which we have to evolve in achieving a number of resource sharing activities. We have also to think about critical problems and issues we are bound to encounter. Resource sharing is, indeed, a much more complex and difficult task to undertake in this part of our world than in the industrialized West.

As a cooperative activity, resource sharing can bring a great satisfaction and a sense of service to our users, but it can also bring a sense of frustration and skepticism. Experience tells us that the major obstacles in resource sharing have more to do with the deeply ingrained attitude or human resistance to change than technology. Many of our colleagues are afraid to give up with what they possess. Many of our colleages in the profession really need a subtle change in their attitudes. In most cases, it is the human factor than can spell success or failure in any international cooperative venture. There are other constraints under which resource sharing must operate such as limited financial resources, dearth of competent staff and delay in the delivery system because of the distance factor.

If we want an effective resource sharing program to become a reality, it needs commitment, funding and a great deal of goodwill. The acceptance of the rationality behind resource sharing and demonstration of our willingness to share are key aspects to a successful resource sharing scheme.

The multi-directional flow of resources and the information contained in them can be facilitated with the creation of a consortium. In this connection, instructive lessons on resource sharing can be learned from the experience of developed countries as we are ready to move toward a multi-type of network. Aside from sharing physical materials, there are areas of resource sharing which should concern us especially in the areas of manpower development, equipment and know how.

The involvement of our trained staff is essential if we are going to provide good library service at the international level. To make our resource sharing program a success, it is a must to conduct a continuing program for the re-training and education of our library staff to new modes of operation at international level of responsibilities. The training program for the library staff shall include a study of the philosophy of resource sharing and the techniques and skills essential to make it work. It will provide our staff with a world view, an experience in art of giving and receiving which is a vital aspect of exchange across jurisdictional, institutional, and political boundaries.

For a start, I would like to propose in our resource sharing scheme a program of action on a few specific projects based on the principle of selectivity. This can be worked out bilaterally or multilaterally.

One of these is the bibliographic exchange — a major component in resource sharing. Other principal resources to be shared are government publications. In the process of international library cooperative interaction, each national institution will present its own needs and will receive certain demands from the various participants. In our particular case, not all resources are of equal or even have significant research value to our users. Our current scholarly requirements call for Philippine works and manuscripts which are not available locally, but are now found in the several established institutions in the Asia. We are willing to pay for photo duplication in any convenient form to the institutions which hold the items we urgently want.

In the Philippines, there has been an increased emphasis in recent years in developing cooperative programs in the field of higher education and extending them also to all aspects of library work and operations. In Metro-Manila, for example, we have the consortia for a Ph.D. in linguistics, program in Business Education and in University Graduate Program. In addition, there is the consortia for Southern Manila Area and Northern Manila. The sharing of holdings among the university and college librarians in the Metro-Manila has been increasingly accepted as a necessity and a realistic means of providing the full range of materials needed for educational and scholarly research.

The National Library is now engaged in the computerization of its Philippine National Bibliography (PNB) in collaboration with the Technology Resource Center (TRC). This is a timely project which enables the institution to create a bibliographic data base at a machine readable magnetic tape. The basic materials for our PNB are those published works deposited with us under the new copyright and legal deposit decrees. The other project of prime importance is the survey of the intellectual resources of the nation, particularly with special stress on those Filipiniana materials relating to social sciences and humanities available in the various institutions and agencies, both public and private, throughout the land. This is a major undertaking which will open up wide avenues in the direction of knowing what the country has gained or lost in terms of its cultural and intellectual heritage during the last four decades. This will lead also to the making of a National Union Catalogue which will determine the nature, extent, description and location of the numerous hitherto obscure Filipiniana items scattered all over the country. The target date for the full completion of the project shall be four years from now.

At the regional level, a financial aid has moved into the Asian National library community from IDRC with an explicit objective of stimulating resource sharing. The beneficiary is the newly organized National Library Documentation-Southeast Asia Consortium (NLDC-SEA) which is going to propel in the region a situation that is bound to change our patterns of service, concept of collections, methods of access and outlook on cooperative activity. With its formation, we have taken the second major step toward enhancing our capabilities for resource sharing.

I conclude by again reiterating the fact that we cannot remain isolated and independent. Over the years, we have learned that we cannot have native publication or book published in the region. We have now reached the right moment in the development of Asian and Oceanic librarianship when the needs of our users can be brought together and can be addressed through the medium of technology. Let us each strive hard to work together. Let us each share the common burden of being user-oriented institution and gradually build the foundations of international resource sharing cooperation. We have a long and difficult way to go, but we must begin. With our insights and ideas, we can work out a cooperative structure. Our collective efforts will then be justified by the benefits that resource sharing can offer in a fast changing inter-dependent world of Asia and Oceania.

INTERNATIONAL RESOURCE SHARING : SINGAPORE

MRS YOKE-LAN WICKS, Deputy Director, Singapore National Library.

Resource sharing in Singapore has already been adequately dealt with in a paper by Quah Swee Lan[1] submitted at the IFLA/Unesco Pre-Session Seminar for Librarians from Developing Countries, held in Antwerp in Aug/Sep 1977. In it Quah has focused on staff training, cooperative acquisitions, bibliographical projects and inter-lending at national level, while at the same time giving due emphasis to joint Singapore/Malaysia and regional projects. Among these are:

1) The Cooperative Microfilming Programme, in which the Sub-Committee on Microforms (SCOM), set up by the Joint Standing Committee on Library Cooperation and Bibliographical Services (JSCLCBS) of the Library Associations of Malaysia and Singapore, coordinates and rationalises the microfilming programme of libraries and institutions of the two countries which participate in the programme. SCOM members accept responsibility for the filming of specific titles or groups of materials; agree to consult each other before embarking on new filming; lend material to fill in gaps before microfilming and make positives available by sale or exchange;

2) The Regional Microfilm Clearing House, which was set up following the First General Conference of the South East Asian Branch of the International Council of Archives (SARBICA) in 1971, and serves as a communication and information disseminating channel for microfilming activities in South East Asia. Its most ambitious project, publication of the Masterlist of South East Asian Microforms which is jointly

sponsored by SARBICA and the Congress of South East Asian Librarians (CONSAL) whose members include library associations and national libraries of ASEAN member countries, has just been completed. The Masterlist is described as a "tool to identify, locate and make available for reference purposes all documents in South East Asia on microforms" and will be continued by the National Library of Singapore;

3) The International Serials Data System (ISDS) in which national centres, set up in Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand undertake the responsibility of preparing worksheets and assigning International Standard Serial Numbers (ISSN's) to locally published serials for input into the ISDS Regional Centre in Bangkok;

4) The recently-formed Consortium of National libraries and Documentation Centres in South East Asia (NLDC-SEA Consortium) whose objective is to "develop an inter-library exchange network for national libraries in South East Asia, with a view to providing each participating library with access to the collections of the others..."

The projects enumerated above are relevant to international resource sharing in which the National Library of Singapore has much to contribute. Under the provisions of the National Library Act (Cap 311 of 1970) the National Library serves Singapore as a national and public library. Over the years the Library has expanded to include

three full-time branches, three part-time branches and 11 mobile service points. The size of the Library's collections (1.2 million items), the large membership (over 335,000 registered readers) and high circulation (over 2.9 million loans expected at the end of the 1978/79 fiscal year) and a number of other factors have made it necessary for the National Library to consider mechanisation of its operations, including acquisitions, cataloguing and circulation. A proposal to computerise was submitted to Treasury, and has just been approved for implementation. In terms of resource sharing, this is a significant development as it will open up new avenues for library cooperation at national, regional and international level.

With computerised cataloguing the creation of a machine-readable database using the MARC format, and to be known as SINGMARC, is planned. The recorded holdings of the National Library collections on cards will be converted to machine-readable form with simultaneous input of new acquisitions. More importantly, the Singapore National Bibliography (SNB) which has now achieved currency can be printed by computer. It is envisaged that the scope of the SNB can be widened to include all types of materials (books, periodicals, government publications, theses) and materials in media other than print (records, microforms, globes), and that retrospective coverage (pre-1967 imprints) will now be feasible. Since 1974 the SNB has adopted the International Standard Bibliographic Description (ISBD). ISSNs have been included in the SNB since 1976; ISBNs will be included by 19[illegible]. Present thinking is for SINGMARC output to be in microfiche but the production of printed cards, tapes and book catalogues is not ruled out.

The next step will be the development of a national resource network, SINGNET, with participation by the National Library and other major libraries, research institutions and documentation centres in Singapore, which will provide equal opportunity for access to information,

and make cost effective use of Singapore library resources. A paper by Hedwig Anuar[3] entitled: The development of NATIS (national information systems) in Singapore: an outline paper included a proposal for the setting up of an advisory committee on national information policies and systems. This committee, with representatives from educational, cultural, scientific and commercial organisations, or subcommittees and task forces appointed by this body, can liaise, advise, recommend and ensure that participating libraries of SINGNET adopt common standards for cataloguing, subject requirements, extent of data elements and filing, catalogue layout, etc so that SINGNET can eventually participate in regional and international networking. So far no major library in Singapore has computerised its operation except in very limited areas. However, input by libraries into SINGMARC can still be achieved by sending in data on completed worksheets on an agreed format, until such time when they are computerised.

When computerised cataloguing at the National Library is fully operational, a machine-readable database of monographs and serials held in the Library will be available. At a later stage all entries in the Singapore Periodicals Index (SPI) which have been indexed manually from 1972 onwards will be converted to machine readable form while current and retrospective indexing will be computerised as well. Production of the SNB by computer, especially with output in magnetic tape or microform, will be a useful tool to enable other national libraries to identify and acquire Singapore imprints. The extent to which the SNB is used for identification, selection and acquisition will depend on its scope and coverage. It is envisaged that from SINGMARC a database of national imprints will be generated, which will

i meet the objectives of the NLDC-SEA Consortium, which has provisions for an infrastructure in each member country (telex, photocopy, microfilming services) to make accessible

by loan or photocopy the required national imprints, in keeping with IFLA's Universal Availability of Publications (UAP) programme;

ii broaden the database of the ISDS-SEA Regional Centre, with an increasing number of entries, especially older titles;

iii enable Singapore's contribution to the Masterlist of South East Asian Microforms, mentioned earlier on, to be updated regularly; and

iv enable the setting up of agreements with other national libraries for the exchange of MARC tapes.

With the formation of SINCNET the scope for international resource-sharing is further enhanced because of the input from participating libraries. This will include holdings of the libraries of the University of Singapore, Nanyang University, the Institute of South East Asian Studies, the Singapore Polytechnic and larger libraries in Government departments and statutory boards and from the commercial sector. The National Library will be then able to compile and maintain in machine-readable form a national database from which can be derived various files useful for international resource sharing especially with reference to the regional projects mentioned earlier.

A national union catalogue of serials readily available will facilitate input into the database for the proposed computerisation of a regional union catalogue of serials held in the national libraries of Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand, to be undertaken by the ISDS-SEA Regional Centre in Bangkok.

If the pilot project, sponsored by CONSAL, on subscribing to selected computerised databases to be undertaken by the Asian Institute of Technology

is successful, subject files from SINGNET can be offered in exchange for these databases.

Union lists with emphasis on subjects of interest in the region (eg ASEAN, family planning, shipping, low cost housing) can be compiled for distribution to national libraries for selection and acquisition, and to facilitate interlending.

International resource sharing as described cannot take place overnight. Access to materials and information achieved through the automation of bibliographic services is a gradual process. In Singapore this is seen as an evolving process of automation from individual institutions to networking which ultimately results in resource sharing. For the latter to succeed it is important to ensure that standardisation and compatibility exist. The National Library's role is to provide leadership in the development and promotion of bibliographic standards as envisaged in UBC; in the planning, coordination and development of national information systems and networks; and participation in the development and improvement of international information systems and networks within the framework of NATIS.

References

1 Quah, Swee Lan. Resource sharing in Singapore libraries. In IFLA/Unesco Pre-Session Seminar for Librarians from Developing Countries, Antwerp, 1977. Papers. Antwerp, 1977.

2 National Library. Singapore. Development proposal on computerisation of library operations. Singapore, 1978. (Mimeographed)

3 Anuar, Hedwig. The development of NATIS (national information systems) in Singapore: an outline paper. Singapore, 1978. (Mimeographed)

ACTIVITIES IN RESOURCE SHARING

MRS KULLASAP GESMANKIT, Director, National Library of Thailand

I. Introduction

Thailand is a kingdom located at the very centre of Southeast Asia. It is in the proximity of Lao in the north, Veitnam and Kampuchea over the East, Burma in the West and Malaysia and Singapore in the South.

Thailand's population in over 45 million. It has joined a multitude of international organizations including UNESCO, WHO (World Health Organization) WIPO (World Intellectual Property.)

In so far as an encouragement and service in promotion of reading for its populations is concerned, Thailand has established and operated the National Library which is financed by the government budget. Donations and other funds derived from various international assistance schemes and technological co-operations has also made possible of the co-operative projects under the National Library responsibility.

The National Library of Thailand was first established by the Royal Decree in 1905, under the name of Vajirna Library. It has been gradually developped and in 1962 the Thai government decided to have a new building constructed at the site adjoining to the Royal Landing-Stage at Tawasukree Samsen Road. The new building was finished in 1966, and opened for public use in the same year.

The collection of the National Library of Thailand consist of

1. Printed materials at present amounts to volumes in Thai and Foreign languages. The National Library of Thailand possesses the largest collection of books printed in the country since the beginning of the collection. There are also special collections of Thai and Foreign books which were donated to the National Library by outstanding scholars and book collectors.

2. Thai Manuscript & Stone Inscription. Thai manuscript are written on palm leaves and Thai paper folded in acordion pleats. They are mainly copies of the buddhist sacred books and other Buddhist literature. Among them there are also medical treatises, historical works, treatises on arts and astrology etc. totalling 146564 items.

The manuscript are classified by subjects, with chronological arrangement. One-Third are cataloqued, annotations for each items are provided.

As regards the stone inscription, about 87 pieces in various ancient languages and scripts of the Southeast Asian region are kept at the National Library of Thailand. There are still many more which are kept in temples and museums all over country. Rubbings have been made and photographs of these inscription taken. Specialist in ancient language and paleographers have read, deciphered

and translated a number of these inscriptions which have been published in book form.

3. Audio visual materials

Audio materials consist of phonograph records and tapes. There is special collection of tapes of Thai folklore, important lectures and discussions, parliamentary debates addresses and speeches on certain occasions. Among the visual materials collected are those of the maps of Thailand, photographs of important events, places and personalities.

Services

1. The National Library of Thailand is open 7 days a week from 8.30 a.m. to 8.30 p.m. It closes only on national holidays.

Users are required to register and obtain a permit card to use the library.

2. At request, photocopies and microfilm copies of printed materials or manuscripts are provided.

Translation services, especially for Thai manuscripts are also provided.

Reference services are given. Questions can be submitted by mail and Telephone.

Index files to certain subjects are compiled, for example indexes to Buddhist sacred books and to the Thai Royal Gazette, which are in card forms and can be consulted by readers.

3. The National Library of Thailand also provides bibliographic documentation and information services to libraries and public.

3.1 The National Bibliography

The National Library of Thailand issues a monthly list of Thai publication which it received from printers or acquired by other means. In addition it also provides each month a list of accession of foreign materials.

A retrospect national bibliography of 5 years cumulation for1962-1966 has been printed. Another 5 years volume from 1966-1971 is under preparation.

A Pilot Project for the Computerized National bibliography for 1975 and onward has been undertaken since 1976. Sixteen leading libraries institions has cooperated in the project. The first volume for 1975 was issued on June 1978. The project is now carrying on with its aims to have the national bibliography issued currently in printed form

Union catalogue and printed card catalogue are the next steps of the project.

Several volumes of bibliography of periodicals and newspaper in Thailand also have already been published.

3.2 Subject and Author Bibliography

Bibliography on various subjects especially those concerning Thailand, such as Thai Religion, Archaeology, and Thai

Literature have been compiled while bibliographies of works of voluminous authors, such as Prince Damrongrajanubharb, and Prya Anumanrajadhon have already been published.

Services on the compilation of special bibliographies are also offered-as requested by scholars with minimum charges.

3.3 Future plan for bibliography service.

The National Bibliographies issued as mentioned before are compiled and published in Thai language. Only those of English, French or Chinese language books and periodicals are compiled and published in the language used. The National Library of Thailand, therefore, is planning to set up a scheme of National Bibliographies translation into English language with its aim to promote the inter-library loan services, the acquisition of Thai publications among other libraries, Thai study in some foreign institutions and the world wide use.

II. Activities in International Resource Sharing.

National Library of Thailand with its main objectives to serve both local and international people well, has joined many international activities.

In International Resources Sharing the National Library of Thailand has been approved by the Ministry of Education as its governing body to undertake the role of Regional Centre for ISDS-SEA

(International Serial Data System Southeast Asia Centre) and to join the membership of the National Libraries and Documentation Centres Consortium (NLDC-Consortium)

1. International Serial Data System-Southeast Asia Centre (ISDS-SEA)

International Serial Data System is a co-operative activity at the international level to control serial publications of the world. Its main objective is to register systematically records of serials published anywhere in the world, and to build up international serial data base so that users can get access to whatever serials records they acquire.

ISDS was initiated by Unesco, under its UNISIST program. The concept occurred in 1967, when the General Conference of Unesco, and the General Assembly of the International of Science Union decided to establish the Universal Information System in Science and Technology (UNISIST). Serials, as the main sources of information, received special attention, and it was suggested that a systematic record of serial should be established.

Unesco, at its sixteenth general Conference adopted the resolution 2141 (C) concerning establishment of the International Serial Data System and in 1972 invited the Member States to co-operate in the International Serial Data System by establishing a National ISDS Centre.

The ISDS centers will develop and maintain national, regional and international registers of serial publications, "consisting all the necessary information for the identification of the serials. In developing the registers, emphasis will be placed on new titles, current serials, and response to user demand". The centers will make available the registered information to all participating countries, organizations or individual users. The ISDS network consists of an International Center, and National Centers. Whereever it is considered economical, and appropriate, Member States may consider setting up a Regional Center.

1.1 The International Center (Paris), created by the French government, is located in Paris, 20 rue Bachaumont, 75002 Paris. It is responsible for :-

1. The introduction and operation of an automated system for the registration of periodicals in all field of knowledge. It establishes and maintains the international file of serials which will assure the identification of each given serials and their bibliographic control.
2. The dissemination of informations contains in the international file. For this purpose, it publishes the ISDS Bulletin, the International Register, and the National Registers. On request or subsciption, the IC also disseminates, in machine readable form, a complete file or part of it.

3. The response to users'demand concerning the assigning of new ISSN, identifying and validating ISSN already assigned, in case of periodicals published in the countries which have not yet established the ISDS National Centers.

   For the countries which have already set up the National Centers, the IC will produce the ISSN and allocate the block for such centers.

4. The promotion of the establishment of the ISDS National Centers, or Regional Centers which will Contribute to the creation and maintainance of the international file. Its Director signs an agreement with the national organization which set up the National or Regional Center. It also co-ordinates activities of various National Centers.

5. The co-ordination between the ISDS and other international organizations engaging in related activetus such as ICSU, ICSU AB, ISO IFLA, FID etc.

6. The provision of internationally acceptable standards for the identification of serial publications by
   - the use and maintenance of ISO international standards such as ISSN, title word abbreviations; exchange formats; transliteration scheme etc; and
   - the identification of needed standards and the cooperation with international organization in their establishment.

7. The communication with publishers in order to obtain their active co-operation in following agreed standards for the identification of their products.
8. The reception of staff from ISDS centres for information and training.

1.2 The Regional Centre

The International Serials Data System Regional Centre for Southeast Asia (ISDS-SEA) is a Centre of joint operation of national ISDS-centres of countries in Southeast Asia. At present, there are five members of ISDS-SEA, namely Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand

Agreement between ISDS-SEA and the International Center (Paris) was signed on November 4, 1977.

Operation

As a regional centre of a network of national centres, ISDS-SEA collects information about serials which are forwarded by the national centres and establishes a computer-based regional data file.

As a regional node of the International Serials Data System network, it provides the regional data for the establishment and maintenance of an international file of the ISDS International Centre.

The ISDS-SEA acts also as a liaison between the International Centre (Paris) and the National Centres (NCs) of the region.

The main responsibilities of each National Centre lie in the establishment of a national file for serials published in its territory, and the contribution of this information to the international file through the ISDS-SEA.

The responsibility for the establishment of the National Centres belongs to the respective government which participate in the UNISIST programme, a world science information system.

Its Major Supporting Bodies

UNESCO-financial assistance in organizing meetings, training workshops, in-service training programmes, observation visits, and data entry services.

International Development Research Centre (IDRC, Canada) - financial assistance in the establishment of computerized data file, annual meetings of the Council, follow-up training programmes, preparation of regional manual.

ISDS International Centre-expert assistance, provision of programmes and tapes of the international file.

Governments of member countries-the provision of working space for National Centres and Regional Centre, provision of Centre staff, payment for supplies, stationery, and postage.

The National Statistical Office of the Government of Thailand-the use of computer and its staff member for programme analysis.

The National Library of Thailand-provision of office space, and part-time personnel and stationary.

Its Organizational Structure

The administrative procedures, overall policies, and operational rules of ISDS-SEA are considered by a board called ISDS-SEA Council, which consists of one representative from each national centre, and the ISDS-SEA Director who serves as Secretary of the Council. The Director is responsible for the operation of the Centre.

ISDS-SEA carries out its functions in accordance with the operational policies of ISDS which has the aim of providing for a reliable registry of world serial publications.

Its Activities

1. Building up a regional file of serials produced in the region.
2. Responding to requests concerning key-titles, International Standard Serial Number assignment, and other information relating to serials.

3. Promotion of the use of International Standard Serial Number (ISSN) among publishers in the region.
4. Organizing workshops and training programmes for the staff of the ISDS national centres in the region.
5. Preparing a manual (entitled "Manual for ISDS-Regional Centre for Southeast Asia, to be used with ISDS Guidelines", prepared by the International Centre).

To Become an ISDS-SEA Member

Any country within the geographical area of Southeast Asia can become a member by :-

1. designating a national ISDS centre, and acceding to Unesco Statute of the International Centre for the Registration of Serial Publication.
2. informing ISDS-SEA of its intention for participation.
3. adopting ISDS-SEA Charter.
4. signing agreement between the National Centre and ISDS-SEA.

In return, the National Centre will receive from the ISDS-SEA and the IC the following services :-

1. Response to requests.
2. Training workshop programmes for the staff of the National Centres in the region.
3. Contribution of the national, regional and international files in print and/or non-print forms.

4. Contribution of the working documents.
5. Solution of the problems arising from operational procedures.
6. Dissemination of new information concerning the programmes.

Regional Centre

Director of the National Library of Thailand
National library, Samson Road
Bangkok 3 Thailand.

ISDS National Centre for Indonesia
Director : Miss Luwarsih Pringgoadisurjo
Address : National Scientific Documentation Centre
Jl. Jenderal Gatot Subroto
P.O.Box 3065/Jkt.
Jakarta
Indonesia.

ISDS National Centre for Malaysia
Director : Mr.D.E.K. Wijasuriya
Address : Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia
Tingkat 7, Bangunan MABA
No. 6 Jalan Davidson
Kuala Lumpur 05-05
Malaysia.

ISDS National Centre for the Philippines

Director : Miss Delia E. Terrijos

Address : Scientific Library and Documentation Centre
National Science Development Board
Bicutan, Taguig, Metro Manila
P.O.Box 3596, Manila
The Phillippines
Telephone : 78-86-62 78-23-93
78-73-70 78-27-22

ISDS National Centre for Singapore

Director : Mrs. Yoke-Lan Wicks

Address : National Library of Singapore
Stamford Road
Singapore 6
Telephone. 327355 327356 327357

ISDS National Centre for Thailand

Director : Mrs. Thara Kanakamani

Address : National Library of Thailand
Samsen Road, Bangkok 3
Thailand
Telephone. 2813614

For More Information

Contact :

ISDS-SEA

c/o National Library of Thailand

Samsen Road, Bangkok 3

Thailand

Telephone : 2815999

2. National Libraries and Documentation Centres Consortium (NLDC-Consortium)

Besides taking a role in operating as a Regional Centre of the ISDS-SEA, the National Library of Thailand by approval of the Ministry of Education also has become a signatory member of the NLDC-Consortium Agreement which was ratified in 1978. Like the constituent members of ISDS-SEA, five member countries participating in the project are :-

National Documentation Centre of Indonesia

National Library of the Philippines

National Library of Singapore

National Library of Thailand

and the National Library of Malaysia is expected to sign the agreement soon in the future.

The operation has been under the auspices and co-operative assistance of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC)

The Objective of the NLEC-Consortium are as followings:-

1. to provide access to all library materials excepting classified items, emanating from countries of the Consortium, at reasonable cost and within reasonable time, such access to be facilitated through inter-library loans, provision of photocopies/microforms and assistance in procurement
2. to promote and co-ordinate the acquisition within each country of library materials of the region deemed to be of continuing importance
3. to promote the prompt recording of the national output of library materials in the national bibliography, their issue in accordance with international standards and in a format which will facilitate the creation of a regional MARC tape which would in turn improve bibliographic control and the availability of library materials within the region
4. to create in each institution a register of publications translated from local languages into languages of broader distribution
5. to initiate action to reduce barriers to the free flow of library materials within the region by :
   a. drawing the attention of member Governments to the provisions of the UNESCO Florence Agreement and

of the need to adopt and implement these provisions and,

b. requesting the respective Governments, ASEAN National Secretariats and other appropriate bodies to consider and introduce preferential postal, shipping, customs and other materials among the institution.

6. to provide regular monitoring of the operations of the Consortium in order to evaluate and improve access to library materials.

7. to establish effective communication channels among the institutions through telex and other appropriate means in order to realise the objectives of the Consortium.

In furtherance of the above objectives the members agreed that :

1. membership of the Consortium shall be limited to the institutions specified.

2. all meetings of the Consortium during the initial period shall be funded by IDRC, after which appropriate provisions shall be made by the respective members.

3. to facilitate the functioning of the Consortium, there shall be a Co-ordinator who shall serve for a period of three years and thereafter the post shall rotate

alphabetically by country at the end of each three-year period

4. Members of the Consortium shall meet at least once a year in the initial period at a place to be determined by mutual consent and thereafter they shall meet at least once every two years
5. The policies, programmes and procedures of the Consortium shall be collectively determined at regular or specially convened meetings of the Consortium

III. Conclusion :

The National Library of Thailand is confident that works undertaken under ISDS-SEA and NLDC projects, would be instrumental in enhancing the concept underly co-operative arrangements for inter library loan system. Together it will also promote the expansion of the documentation work of member countries as well as will represent a step in the right direction towards improvement of services both in the substance and extent for the library users. This will eventually contribute greatly to the acceleration and improvement of the national development programme.

What might be expected beyond the benefit derived from the existing co-operation in resource sharing among member countries' national library previously indicated would be

1. Cooperation in the area of resource persons, in the compilation of list or directory of resource persons in various branches of the library science, the assistance in the form of dispatching resource persons to various useful projects. This, we hope, would prove most useful to the move to improve or upgrade our library services.

2. Grant of fellowship for training to the staff of the National Library in resource sharing subject including for instance, the computer technique in the compilation of National Biliography or computer application for the national library work-one of the branches of work currently being assisted by the advancement of new technology, would be appropriate and worth while to the improvement of the operation of the national library especially these developing countries.

3. Joint discussion, meeting, conference, or training workshop among international-libraries in the areas of management and technology to be organized through cooperative scheme with the developed countries would undoubtedly be worth initiated to enhance the co-operative arrangements among national libraries of various countries and to benefit the world's move for the development of human resources and the promotion of world peace.

DEVELOPMENT OF RESOURCE SHARING NETWORKS

DR GEORGE CHANDLER, Director-General
National Library of Australia

INTRODUCTION

Throughout the world, library-based information is being recognized as a crucial national resource which has a key part to play not only in industrial, scientific and technological development, but also in the diagnosis and solution of social problems and in improving the quality of life. It has been confidently forecast that the leading countries in the future will be those which have most effectively organised their library-based and other information resources.

International recognition of the importance of information was given by UNESCO in its 1971 decision to sponsor UNISIST (World Science Information System) and in 1974 NATIS (National Information System), which cover the whole field of knowledge. The International Meeting of National Libraries at its session in Oslo in 1975 unanimously adopted in the presence of a representative of UNESCO a foundation document setting out the key role of national libraries in national information systems.

The Australian Government accepted the recommendation of the Minister for Education, with the approval of the Special Minister of State and of the National Library Council, that the National Library should be the Australian national focal point for UNISIST.

The decision of UNESCO to sponsor UNISIST and NATIS was to some extent preceded by the decision of the National Library Council with the approval of the Government to appoint the Scientific and Technological Information Services Enquiry Committee (STISEC), whose report, known as the STISEC Report, was submitted to the Government in 1973.

All three programs, UNISIST, NATIS and STISEC, are essentially similar and compatible with those of the national subject information libraries established recently within the National Library (as envisaged in the Interdepartmental Committee report on ALBIS). These are intended to identify nationwide needs for library-based information at all levels of the community, specify gaps in its provision, encourage appropriate organizations to help fill the gaps voluntarily, and ensure that the collections and services of the National Library make a maximum contribution to meet nationwide needs at all levels.

The recommendations of the STISEC Report may be grouped into three parts and expounded as follows :

(a) that a national library-based information authority be created
(b) that a range of networks of bibliographical information services and other special services be promoted, similar to those operated in other countries by national subject information libraries
(c) that a policy be developed delineating the responsibilitis which the various separately administered elements in the system might be able and willing voluntarily to undertake.

It is important to recognize that these three closely related problems were the subject of separate decisions. An objective of this report is to clarify them.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA COUNCIL TO DEVELOP LIBRARY-BASED INFORMATION SERVICE

The first decision after publication of the STISEC Report was that the National Library Council should develop library-based information services, as it was considered that duplication of resources within a separate library-based information authority could not be justified. The National Library Act specifically charges the National Library to establish a national collection of library materials, to encourage national co-operation, and to develop nationwide bibliographical information services.

The National Library Council recognized that development of its library-based information services required it to be in closer touch with all elements in the national library-based information system : Federal and State agencies, industrial organizations, voluntary social, professional and cultural associations, state and public libraries, university libraries, and college and school libraries. Hence it pressed successfully for the amendment of the National Library Act in order to enlarge the Council to make it more representative of user needs.

In order to ensure that there is wide consultation with other persons drawn from a wide range of activities, the Council appointed five advisory committees, each under the chairmanship of an appropriate expert member of the Council.

Advisory Committee for Co-operation with State and Public Libraries;
Communications Systems Working Group (COSYWOG);
Advisory Committee for Science and Technology;
Advisory Committee for the Social Sciences;
Advisory Committee for the Humanities and the Arts.

These advisory committees encourage voluntary co-operation between all elements in the national library-based information system.

In addition, the National Library Council has arranged to secure further advice from professional librarians by extending its financial support of AACOBS (Australian Advisory Council on Bibliographical Services), on which serve representatives of all the major libraries and all types of libraries.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY TO DEVELOP NETWORKS

The second step taken to implement the STISEC Report was to appoint a Director-General of the National Library as Executive Member of the National Library Council, with the responsibility to advise the Government and the National Library Council on the development of networks for science and technology, the social sciences, the humanities and the arts, all of which involve international collaboration.

The advice was accepted that the networks be organized under the auspices of national subject information libraries within the National Library, thus avoiding the duplication of staff and library materials which would occur if they were separately established.

Widespread consultations in Australia and abroad identified some 40 potential networks in which a wide range of organizations were willing to participate voluntarily in developing services to the Australian community.

Each network would initially have participants drawn approximately equally from the different elements in the emerging national library-based information system.

Analysis of offers of assistance in the various networks revealed that within each network there are four elements; for consultancy, referral, computer-based and traditional library services. Each of these will

require public access points and focal points for nation-wide services in State, public, industrial, academic, social welfare and other organizations.

Public Access Points

State libraries can appropriately serve as public access points to nation-wide traditional library services. Regional and public libraries similarly can serve as public access points to traditional State library services.

Focal points

By 'focal points' for consultancy services within networks is meant the leading specialized organizations able and willing to make their original research and know-how available to the public on terms to be negotiated, and/or to maintain registers of research in progress, and/or to encourage the publication of the results of research and its use by the public.

By 'focal points' for referral services is meant organizations with the necessary trained staff and facilities to advise the public as to the organizations which may assist in answering their specialized inquiries.

By 'focal points' for computer-based services is meant organizations which operate computer-based services and are able and willing to offer them to the public.

By 'focal points' for traditional library services is meant organizations willing and able to extend their reference and lending library facilities to the public, free of charge.

By 'international focal points' is meant overseas organizations able and willing to offer library-based information services to reinforce those in Australia, on terms to be agreed, e.g. national libraries in membership of international associations.

NATIONAL LIBRARY TO UNDERTAKE FEASIBILITY STUDIES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NETWORKS

The third decision taken after publication of the STISEC Report was to appoint an Interdepartmental Committee (IDC) to consider the formation of an Australian library-based information system. The IDC recommended that the National Library Council's provision of $1,025,000 in its budgets 1974-6, to implement the feasibility studies for an Australian Library-Based Information System (ALBIS), should be approved. The Government

accepted the recommendation.

Reduction of the National Library's staff ceiling contributed to delays in creating and filling the posts, and the necessary staff were not recruited until mid-1975. Subsequent drastic reduction of the National Library's estimates 1975-6 made it impossible to retain financial provisions to complete the ALBIS studies, as envisaged. Hence such studies noted in this paper have been made possible by encouraging voluntary co-operation within resource sharing networks. Those under development were described as follows in the Annual Report 1977-78 or subsequent publications.

ANSTEL(Australian National Scientific and Technological Library)

The objectives of ANSTEL are to identify nation-wide needs for library-based information services in science and technology, to specify gaps in science and technology services, to encourage appropriate institutions to fill the gaps and to ensure that the Library makes a maximum contribution through its services and collections.

ANSTEL has developed and is developing many library-based information services covering science and technology. These are designed to meet the needs of industry, research, the medical community, government departments, professional societies and indeed any organisation or person interested in any aspect of science and technology.

ANSTEL staff includes graduates in chemistry, engineering, metallurgy and physics, with qualifications in information science and librarianship. This specialised subject knowledge enables the collections to be exploited most effectively on behalf of inquirers.

Through co-operation with Federal Departments, industry, professional societies, trade associations and others, the recommendations of STISEC (Scientific and Technological Information Services Enquiry Committee) have been progressively implemented. As recommended in the STISEC Report current awareness services, improved literature supply and computer-based network services have been developed.

Reference, lending and photocopying services

ANSTEL's collection of library material is a significant one. It comprises over 22,000 journals and 100,000 monographs. The collection is used to answer reference inquiries and to meet the demands of the lending service;

additional resources are urgently required to satisfy the needs of industry.

Surveys have been undertaken with other institutions to assess the value of the ANSTEL collection in meeting their inter-library loan needs. These surveys are continuing, as are others, all designed to identify ways in which the needs of the users can be most satisfactorily met.

Current Awareness Bulletins

The Current Awareness Bulletins produced by ANSTEL each month now cover 147 topics. These are produced through co-operation between the National Library and the Departments of Health, Productivity and Defence, the Australian Atomic Energy Commission and CSIRO, utilising computer-based information services operated by these Departments. An industrial design bulletin is produced in co-operation with the Industrial Design Council of Australia. Similarly, a Current Awareness Bulletin in the field of mining engineering is distributed in co-operation with the Australian Mineral Foundation and the Departments of Productivity and Defence. The Bulletins list current world-wide literature, both periodicals and reports, on broad topics of technology, science, medicine, the biological sciences and overseas reports and over 8,000 copies are now distributed each month.

Life Sciences Network

With the co-operation of the Department of Health, the MEDLARS (Medical Literature Analysis and Retrieval System) on-line network, known as MEDLINE, has continued to grow with more regional centres being connected to the network.

The next phase will be to bring hospitals directly into the network. BIOSIS (Bio-sciences Information Service) is not yet available on-line but this continues to form part of the development plans of the network.

Industry Network

The Industry Information Network Liaison Committee, which is composed of representatives from industry, professional societies and government instrumentalities, has continued to monitor the information needs of Australian industry and has guided the development of the information services of the Industry Section.

A Task Team drawn from members of the Liaison Committee has been instrumental in the publication of a Directory of Technical Information Sources for Industry. This directory lists companies, trade associations, research institutions, consultants, libraries and government departments willing to assist others by providing technical information.

An Australian Scientific and Technological Reports Data Base (AUSTRE) has been developed. The main product of AUSTRE is a bi-monthly bulletin listing Australian reports, conference papers and university and college dissertations, both published and unpublished.

ANSOL (Australian National Social Sciences Library)

The role of ANSOL is to identify nationwide needs for library and library-based information services in the social sciences, to identify gaps, to encourage the appropriate institutions to fill the gaps and to ensure that the Library makes a maximum contribution through its services and collections.

The Council has identified the need for the staff structure in ANSOL to be similar to that in ANSTEL and to comprise an Assistant Director-General (Social Sciences) and specialist directors for a range of services in the social sciences.

Social Sciences Network

The Social Sciences Network provides information services based on the Library's extensive collections and on the Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI) data base.

The information services based on SSCI include 153 selective dissemination of information (SDI) profiles and 21 current awareness bulletins covering topics ranging from 'accounting' to 'violence and terrorism'.

ANSOL's computer-based information services continue to provide an invaluable focal point for access to social sciences information.

Education Information Network

The Education Information Network provides SDI services for the American Educational Resources Information Centre (ERIC) data base. As well as providing SDI searches from the ERIC data base, 28 current awareness

bulletins are prepared and issued monthly. Through them the Library is reaching a wide cross-section of the education community from classroom teachers to administrators, thereby increasing their awareness of developments in education.

Community Affairs Information Service

The Community Affairs Information Service produces the Community Affairs Bulletin and aims to provide a full range of information services in this area. The purpose of the Bulletin is to identify material received by the Library in the field of community affairs for the benefit of practitioners and policy-makers.

Research Registration

The United Nations Information Exchange System on Aging, established in 1975, is designed to serve as a clearing house and referral centre to governments, agencies, institutions and individuals interested in the aged. The Library is the Australian national focal point for the system and in this role has the responsibility for collecting information on aging in Australia for input to the system, and for disseminating this information to interested Australian organisations and individuals.

International Information System on Research in Documentation

As the National Information Transfer Centre (NITC) for UNESCO's International Information System on Research in Documentation (ISORID), now incorporated in the UNESCO General Information Program, the Library is responsible for gathering and preparing information on Australian research in librarianship and documentation for input to the system.

Services to the Blind and Physically Handicapped

Library services to the blind and physically handicapped in Australia are given by a large number of organisations, many of them voluntary. Since 1973, at the request of the Australian National Council for the Blind, the Library has maintained a pool of litte-used braille books, of continuing value, transferred from braille libraries in the State capitals.

Consultancy and Referral Services

1978 marked a major expansion in ANSOL consultancy and referral services in the social sciences generally, and especially in the field of computer-based information services.

ANHUL (Australian National Humanities Library)

Although a senior staff structure for ANHUL was approved by the Council at the same time as that for ANSTEL, appointments were deferred pending clarification of the extent and date of implementation of network services in the humanities.

Australian reference inquiries have come from a wide variety of sources but most time and effort have been spent in answering official inquiries. The Library's historical collections and its extensive current information files continue to be utilised by Parliament and by Commonwealth Government departments.

Australian Pictorial Collection

The pictorial collection continued to attract considerable research use and is becoming better known as more of the Library's works are reproduced in books or displayed in Library or other exhibitions. Paintings and photographs are lent to libraries and galleries in Sydney, Adelaide, Ballarat, Alice Springs, Auckland and Honolulu.

Rare Books

In building a research collection a library inevitably acquires books which need special care and custody because their age, beauty or other qualities of rarity make them valuable as objects. The Rare Books Collection in the National Library of Australia contains books of this kind. It also constitutes a rich assembly of materials for the study of social and intellectual life in Europe before 1850.

There are now almost 60,000 books and pamphlets in the Rare Books Collection. Most have been acquired through the purchase of collections assembled by families, scholars or booksellers. Individual purchases are made to complement these holdings. Microforms and reprints of related works are also purchased but are housed in the general book and microform collections.

National Film Library

The National Library maintains the National Film Library, which comprises the National Film Archive and the National Film Lending Collection. An important specialised segment of the lending collection is the Film Study Collection. The national film bibliography, AUSTRALIAN FILMS, is published annually.

NATIONAL COLLECTIONS AND NATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHIC SERVICES

The Resources Organisation and Development Branch acquires and organises the printed material for the national collection. It also provides national bibliographic services, serving as the operational focal point for various international bibliographic programs, including the International Standard Book Numbering System.

Current Materials

Under the Copyright Act the Library received 6,520 current Australian titles in 1977-78, of which 4,277 were monographs and 2,243 were new serials. A constant monitoring effort is maintained to ensure that the Library receives all the material necessary for a comprehensive collection relating to Australia. Particular attention has been focused in the past year on publications of the various ethnic communities in Australia.

The Library relies on a high degree of centralisation in acquisition and processing of printed and microform publications. Over one million individual pieces of material per year were handled in each of the last few years. The figure dropped to 921,974 pieces in 1977-78, including 590,000 serial and newspapers items, 235,000 microform pieces and 94,000 monographs and pamphlets.

Conversion to Microforms

With the continuing growth of the collections and the subsequent strain on the accommodation resources of the present building, the purchase of library material in microform has been actively pursued. At present over 1,750,000 pieces of microform material are held. The Library's holdings of overseas newspapers in bound hard-copy will be progressively replaced with microform as the opportunity arises.

The Clearing Centre also continued to act as the distribution agency for duplicate lists from other Australian libraries, dispatching 443 lists to a total of 402 participating libraries. Librarians from the A.C.T. and interstate visited the Centre to select from the duplicate stock held there.

National Bibliographical Services

As the national bibliographic agency for Australia, the bibliographical publications and external services of the National Library continued to take a high priority. Services offered at the present time include published bibliographies, such as Australian National Bibliography (ANB)

and Australian Government Publications (AGP), and the supply of central cataloguing data through the Australian MARC Record Service (AMRS) and the Catalogue Card Service. The utilisation of cataloguing provided by central bibliographic agencies is designed to enable libraries to achieve savings in their own cataloguing programs by eliminating unnecessary duplication of effort.

Australian MARC Record Service

The Australian MARC Record Service (AMRS), which provides machine-readable bibliographic records from a data base of LC MARC, UK MARC and Australian MARC records, is now in its fifth year of operation and its second year of in-house operation.

Catalogue Card Service

The National Library's Card Service was transferred to an automated production system on 1 November 1977. The Australian MARC Record Service (AMRS) data base has now replaced the previous labour-intensive process.

The new service has a total 129 registered customers. An average of 50 customers use the service regularly, submitting an average monthly total of 17,000 requests. The National Library's own Cataloguing Section is also a Card Service customer and some 5,000 requests are processed each month on their behalf.

Australian National Bibliography

The Australian National Bibliography (ANB) continues to serve the Australian library community as a tool for the systematic selection of Australian publications, as an authoritative cataloguing source and as a useful reference bibliography. The accuracy and high quality of ANB entries are widely acknowledged, but the objectives of promptness and comprehensiveness of the listing of publications remain difficult to achieve. A particular problem is the currency and coverage of government publications. Government printers are being asked to join the Cataloguing-in-Publication Program (CIP), which should improve both the coverage and currency of government publications in ANB.

The CIP Program, which has been growing in Australia since its introduction in 1974, provides two distinct services to the library community. The advantage of centralised and standardised cataloguing available in the book itself is the most obvious. The other advantage is that the Library

receives information from a publisher and supplies a CIP entry during the book's printing stage. Australian Government Publications (AGP) attempts to list all current government publications.

Union Catalogues

The Library has the responsibility for the provision of national union catalogues of monographs, serials and newspapers, music scores and sound recordings, oral history tapes and manuscript collections relating to Australia. Emphasis is being given to the publication of many of these catalogues for the widest possible distribution throughout Australia and the Pacific region to facilitate their use.

National Union Catalogue of Monographs (NUCOM)

NUCOM is one of the most important catalogues used by the Loans and Locations Service and the ANSTEL National Referral Service. NUCOM records locations from over 400 of the major Australian libraries. These libraries send a copy of each catalogue card they produce for their own catalogues for filing into NUCOM.

NUCOM on Microfilm

Over 60 libraries have purchased NUCOM on microfilm. These libraries can thus give immediate answers to many of their users' requests for locations of specific books in Australian libraries. Inter-library loans can then be immediately arranged by telephone, telex or mail.

Serials in Australian Libraries : Social Sciences and Humanities (SALSSAH)

SALSSAH on COM will provide a rapid and up to date medium for the publication of new periodical titles reported by Australian libraries to SALSSAH and the vehicle to keep its titles and holdings up to date. This will assist inter-library loan efficiency throughout Australia.

Co-operation with other Libraries

The 4th edition (1978) of the Guide to the National Union Catalogue of Australia is a major co-operative effort between the Library and almost 1,000 of the major Australian libraries.

Microfilming Projects

The Union Catalogue of East Asian Monographs, maintained on cards by the Library's Orientalia Section from contributions from 17 Australian and

New Zealand libraries, was microfilmed in 1978 on four reels. It will be refilmed every second year so that libraries can have details of up to date reports of further contributions.

Australian Public Affairs Information Service (APAIS)

APAIS is one of the Library's most widely used publications being a subject guide to Australian periodical literature in the social sciences and humanities and providing coverage of Australia's current affairs.

NETWORKS AND CO-ORDINATION

The Networks and Co-ordination Branch co-ordinates the systems requirements of all the National Library's computer-based networks, the Library's publications program, the Library's training program, and co-operation with State and public libraries.

Computer Services Section

During the year a high level of activity was maintained in the development of computer-based library services. All services previously run on a bureau computer or on the smaller IBM System/3 computer, have now been transferred to the IBM System 370/148 and it has been convincingly demonstrated that this move to in-house computing is more economical. The Library is now able to handle greater workloads at a lower overall cost.

The improved version of the Australian MARC Record Service (AMRS) is implemented in-house and is running successfully, accepting requests on magnetic tape from participating libraries and producing catalogue information in machine-readable form. The supplement to this service, the production of catalogue cards, is also operational. SALSSAH production has commenced; the data base is established and computer-generated microfiche copies of the catalogue are being produced for subscribers. Production of the Australian Scientific and Technological Reports Data Base (AUSTRE) has been transferred from the Department of Defence and a current awareness bulletin is produced from a data base of information provided by Commonwealth Department and industry sources.

The APAIS data base is available on-line for in-house use and a copy of the data base is being provided to the service bureau operated by Australian Consolidated Industries (ACI) in Melbourne for the on-line use of AUSINET subscribers.

AUSINET - Australian Information Network

AUSINET is now playing a major role in widening access to information for all Australians. CSIRO and the Department of Productivity have made their data bases available to the National Library as part of resource sharing. These data bases are now available through AUSINET.

Washington Library Network Computer System

As part of the feasibility studies for a national on-line shared cataloguing system, which will culminate in a report to the Government, the National Library has surveyed six different systems in general and has undertaken special studies of the British Library Automated Information Service (BLAISE). The National Library has investigated those on-line systems with full housekeeping capacities and has selected the Washington Library Network (WLN) system for further detailed evaluation and assessment of costs.

The WLN computer system has emerged as a major and most significant system over the last twelve months, although it has been under development for a much longer period. The system is being designed and implemented in four sub systems : bibliographic, acquisitions/accounting, circulation, and serials control.

Although the WLN system has the capability of providing a nation-wide network service, the Library will first examine the effectiveness of the WLN system in meeting its own internal functional needs. It will then identify the resources that will be required to service other libraries.

Data Bases Operated by the Library

AMRS	Australian MARC Record Service
APAIS	Australian Public Affairs Information Service
BIOSIS	Biological Abstracts Information Service
ERIC	Educational Resources Information Centre
MEDLARS	Medical Literature Analysis and Retrieval System
SALSSAH	Serials in Australian Libraries : Social Sciences and Humanities
SCI	Science Citation Index
SSCI	Social Sciences Citation Index

Data Bases Accessed by the Library through AUSINET

AEI	Australian Education Index
ALIT	Alternative Literature
ANB	Australian National Bibliography
APAIS	Australian Public Affairs Information Service
ARI	Australian Road Index
ASI	Australian Science Index
BISA	Bibliographic Information on South-East Asia
CA/Condensates	Chemical Abstracts Condensates
COMPENDEX	Engineering Index
ERIC	Educational Resources Information Center
INSPEC	Computer and Control Abstracts, Electrical and Electronics Abstracts, Physics Abstracts
IRRD	International Road Research Documentation
METADEX	Metals Abstracts
NTIS	National Technical Information Service
SCI	Science Citation Index
SSCI	Social Sciences Citation Index

SOME THOUGHTS ON INFORMATION SHARING FOR OCEANIA

MR KANTILAL L. JINNA, Chief Librarian, Library Service of Fiji.

Fiji and indeed Oceania has recently become very conscious of the whole question of resource sharing and seeking avenues.

The International Conference of Directors of National Libraries has come at an opportune time to discuss Resource Sharing in Asia and Oceania and it is gratifying that the two countries in Oceania Fiji and Papua New Guinea are participating as they must play an important role in the development of the sharing of resources of Oceania.

July 3rd to 8th 1978, the Canadian International Development Research Centre at the request of the University of the South Pacific financed a South Pacific Regional Meeting on Bibliography in Suva. Representatives from Fiji, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, Western Samoa, Gilbert Islands, South Pacific Commission, Universal Bibliographical Control Section of IFLA, British Council, COMLA University of Hawaii and the National Library of New Zealand. The meeting confirmed the need for National Bibliography in the South Pacific Region. It also felt that countries in the South Pacific region should be urged to increase their means of acquisition of materials especially through legal deposit legislation. The meeting recommended the development of National Library Services, a part of whose responsibility should be the acquisition of all such materials and their listing through legal deposit and National Bibliographies. The meeting also felt strongly about the establishment of book councils to promote more writing and local book publishing. The meeting discussed the publication of research registers of all research councils out in the region so that information gathered from research work could be retained within the country. The meeting also discussed regional bibliographical activities, mechanisation of library processes and established SCOPAL - Standing Conference of Pacific Librarians. The second meeting on National Bibliography in the South Pacific followed by SCOPAL will be held in Suva in the second week of July. I have appended the resolutions that were passed at the meeting. The proceedings, now being published, will be released soon. The 1978 IDRC meeting would have portrayed the relative problems that the Oceania Library systems have, and the efforts that are being made to enrich the collections and ensure thair usage.

However, to quote South Pacific Commission statistics, one must appreciate that the South Pacific region covers thirty (30) million square kilometres (more than 98% water); 10,000 islands; 4½ million people; 20 political entities, in various stages of political independence and dependence; differing approaches to socioeconomic development; no language common to all, but an underlying community of problems and aspirations. A broad data base, will assist the information services in government, purpositing information services, and drawing attention of government researches, industry (public and private sector) to appropriate documentation and aid problem solving and decision making machinery.

What is therefore required is a network of national regional and international instituions and organisations to assist the Oceania countries. The need therefore is in the form of a central network system or various centres through which access to information and materials could be requested. The larger and more developed library systems would need to play the role of "donor" countries whilst most of the South Pacific Regional library system would have to be "recipient" countries.

I am looking forward to attending this conference with a view of bringing back the thoughts and ideas of the participating countries for the information of those that will come to Suva soon for the second Bibliography meeting and SCOPAL.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE MEETING ON NATIONAL AND REGIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC

The meeting on National and Regional Bibliography in the South Pacific held at SPEC, Suva from July 3 - 8th 1978, jointly sponsored by the IDRC and USP endorsing the concept of universal bibliographic control and exchange of bibliographic information, emphasising the need to strengthen self-reliance in access to information, recognising the importance of the national bibliography as a major instrument in ensuring national bibliographic control and the promotion and dissemination of national publications, recommends to governments and appropriate bodies that:

A. NATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY ACTIVITIES

1. The National Bibliography

Existing national bibliographies should be supported and others established in countries of the region not already publishing a national bibliography. In support of this activity, national bibliographic agencies should be established or organisations acting as national bibliographic agencies should be designated.

1.1 Scope

As a minimum the national bibliography should include:

(a) books, pamphlets, reports and government publications and other materials from one page upwards;

(b) first issues and title changes of serials (Periodicals, annuals etc.)

In addition it is desirable that non-book material and individual items in a series (e.g. parliamentary papers) should be included.

1.2 Coverage

In addition to the National Imprints materials relating to the country and published outside and works of national creative writers published abroad should be included.

1.3 Acquisition

Material for the national bibliography be urged adequate legal deposit supplemented by methods such as officers seeking out items and notification by other libraries receiving appropriate material.

In addition governments should be urged to list adequately their own publications whether issued by departments or by the government printers.

1.4 Bibliographic Standards

National bibliographies in the region, to assist future mechanisation and integration into other bibliographies should:-

(a) be compiled according to international standards specifically by the Anglo-American cataloguing rules and the ISBDs.

(b) be classified according to current Dewey decimal classification.

Other classification system numbers may be added as considered useful to other libraries in the region.

Country extensions to the DDC should be prepared and submitted to the Dewey Editorial Board.

1.5 Authority Files

The agency compiling the national bibliography should:-

(a) develop for its own use an authority file, and

(b) aim to distribute or circulate this to interested libraries and agencies. In particular statements of National name usage practices etc. should be submitted to IFLA.

1.6 Procedure and Style Manuals

To promote uniformity in presentation and future integration of the bibliographies, librarians in the region should co-operate to produce a standard procedure and style manual.

1.7 Arrangement and Indexes

The national bibliographies should be arranged in classified order with author, title and subject indexes. In addition a list of publishers should be included and separate appendices, if appropriate, may be provided for government legislation, research in progress etc.

1.8 Frequency

Initially the national bibliographies should appear annually, but that quarterly appearance and annual cumulation should be aimed at as a minimum.

1.9 Production and Distribution

If difficulty is encountered in producing the bibliography, assistance should be sought from other sources including those beyond the country and in distributing the bibliography a dual pricing structure (a lower rate for subscribers in the region) should be considered.

2. NATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHIC AGENCY

It is a function of the National Library to operate the National Bibliographic Agency, but in the absence of such a body an institution should be nominated to perform some or all of its functions.

3. OTHER BIBLIOGRAPHIC ACTIVITIES

3.1 Research Register

A research register should be established and maintained for each country in the region and that concerned bodies should co-operate to produce these registers in a uniform format.

3.7 Promotion of the publication and distribution of material including Vernacular.

Governments in the region as well as South Pacific Commission (SPC) and South Pacific Bureau of Economic Corporation (SPEC) should be reminded of the need for the promotion of the publishing and distribution of suitable reading material, including the Vernacular, as expressed at the 16th South Pacific Conference. In addition, in the interests of the preservation of material and as a source of revenue from sales of micro copies the national libraries should arrange for or undertake appropriate microfilming projects. In the case of national material being microfilmed by other agencies the negatives should be retained in the country.

3.8 The SPC should be requested to undertake the acquisition and listing of extension type material produced by countries in the region with the aim of making this type of material more readily available.

IV NATIONAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS

4.1 Policies

The governments in the South Pacific region recognise the importance of information services in national development and that steps be taken to provide effective information infrasturctures in their national development plans in accordance with the UNESCO, NATIS and UNISIST systems and guidelines.

4.2 Services

The governments of the South Pacific region recognise that a well organised national library service, staffed by trained librarians, and making books and reading materials available to all members of the community, is the most effective and economical way of disseminating information at all levels.

4.3 Legislation

The governments of the South Pacific region enact legal deposit legislation where it does not already exist. A such legislation should state the objective of legal deposit in relation to the national bibliography, should ensure that the deposit of copies is relevant to the requirements of the national library system to ensure availability of lending as well as preservation. Such legislation should take into account model deposit laws drafted by UNESCO.

V DEPOSITORY AGENCIES

The USP library be requested to compile a list of the depository arrangements existing within the region for the publication of international organisations. It is desirable that the national library be the depository for these types of documents received by government as a result of its membership of such organisations.

VI RESEARCH REGISTRATION

Noting the concern of the countries in the region that the countries themselves often do not benefit from research, governments should not only exercise control on outsiders undertaking research but should also monitors researchers already within the country.

VII MECHANISATION

Libraries in the region should be encouraged to mechanise small scale projects as and where appropriate.

3.2 Indexes to Periodical articles on the Pacific Region

A regional Periodical Index is seen as a desirable objective.

In the short term the USP Library and PNGUT Library should arrive at uniform format practices and standards with the view to an eventual merger.

3.3 Union Lists

National Union Catalogues and lists of serials are desirable.

3.4 Specialised Bibliographies

The Pacific Information and Library Services Newsletter (PILS) should be used as the medium of notification of all current bibliographical activities, identifies as relevant to the region. It is desirable that in the compilation of bibliographies use of appropriate bibliographic standards should be encouraged.

3.5 Retrospective Bibliographies

As resources become available, retrospective bibliographies should be compiled where they do not exist.

3.6 Microfilming

The national libraries in the region should seek ways and means of acquiring microfilm reading and printing equipment.

VIII TRAINING

Training for bibliographic work should:-

a) be a continuation of basic sub-professional and professional training;
b) be undertaken as short courses and work attachments; and
c) include sub-professionals as a back up to professional staff.

IX FUNDING

As the governments of the region may not be able to finance all of the proposed activities a considerable reliance on external funding will be necessary in the initial stages.

B. REGIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHIC ACTIVITIES

I. COVERAGE

The coverage for the purposes of bibliographic activity should be the SPC region with the addition of the metropolitan countries with a presence in the region.

II. REGIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHIC CENTRE

A regional bibliographic centre should be established to promote, develop and produce regional bibliographies. The function of co-ordinating preliminary activity in this field should be undertaken by the USP library.

III. STATEMENT OF INTENT

A regional bibliographic is seen as a desirable objective and the editing of such a bibliography should be undertaken as a proposed Regional Bibliographic Centre.

REGIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

For the purposes of a regional bibliography the region in question should be limited to islands of the South Pacific with possible selective treatment of Hawaiian publications. Action towards a regional bibliography should be seen as a desirable objective and should be edited at the proposed Regional centre. The agencies listed below should establish contact with other countries in accordance with the following scheme and take appropriate action.

PNG	USP	NEW ZEALAND	HAWAII	SPC	GILBERT	GUAM
Nauru	W. Samoa	Tokelau	A. Samoa	French territories		
Norfolk	Fiji		T.T.P.I.	New Hebrides		
	Tonga					
	Tuvalu					
	Pitcairn					
	Cooks					
	Niue					
	Solomons					

IV UNION LISTS

It is desirable that the existing Union Lists of Serials compiled by the Papua New Guinea University of Technology and the University of the South Pacific Library be amalgamated as a step towards a complete Pacific Union List. In the short term a list of Pacific Serial Title Imprints be produced.

V Indexes to Periodical Articles on the Pacific Region

Existing indexes produced by the University of Papua New Guinea and the University of the South Pacific should be merged to form the basis of a regional periodicals index compiled according to agreed standards. To ensure widest coverage a list of all appropriate periodicals suitable for indexing should be maintained.

VI Staff and Funding

The Regional Bibliographic Centre should seek a fully supported post for an initial period of two years and the USP be invited to act as host. Appropriate funding should be sought.

VII Exchange of Publications

The kind offer of the National Library of Papua New Guinea to act as the clearing house for duplicate lists of Pacific material should be accepted.

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In pursuance of certain of these recommendations, the meeting establishes the following working parties to recommend on:

a) standards of specialised bibliographies and research registers.
A working party consisting of Miss R. Heyum and
Mrs Bess Flores
Mr. H. Holdsworth - Convenor

b) production of suitable reading materials including vernacular for the region.

A working party consisting of Sir John Yocklunn
Mr. S. Hockey, Convenor
Mr. K. Jinna
Mrs. B. Flores

c) statement to governments on the importance of information in national development plans.

A working party consisting of Dr. I. Q. Lasaqa
Mr. S. Hockey
Sir John Yocklunn - Convenor

d) production of a standard procedure and style manual for National Bibliographies.

A working party consisting of Narendra Nandan(USP, Fiji)
Nancy Lutton(UPNG)
R. Aroksaar - Convenor
Gavin Daniels
Sheila Williams

e) Preparation and issue of a statement concerning the 1st meeting.

A working party consisting of H. B. Singh
Edward David

DECISIONS OF THE MEETING

A. Editing and publication of the proceedings of the meeting.

Proposed that:

1. The distribution of the proceedings should be to all Governments in the region; to all major libraries and to all SPC depository libraries throughout the world.

2. The proceedings should comprise working papers, country reports, and a summary of the discussions and resolutions.

3. Members of the editorial committee should be Mr. H. Holdsworth, Convenor, Mr. Kantilal Jinna, Mr. E. David, Mr. H. Singh and Mr. L. Baker and the deadline be 30th of September.

B. Standing Conference of Pacific Librarians. (SCOPAL)

Proposed that:

1. A Standing Conference of Pacific Librarians (Acronym: SCOPAL)

2. The major functions of the working group:
   a) To organise second meeting on bibliography
   b) To provide a contact point for the project workers and the working groups
   c) To provide liaison with organisations and bodies wishing to inter-act with libraries in the region.

3. Members of the working group should be:

SPEC	Mr. E. Blakelock
SPC	Mrs. B. Flores
Fiji	Mr. K. Jinna
PNG	Mr. L. Baker
USP	Chief Librarian or nominee
Gilberts	" " "
Solomons	Mr. L. Waneatona (or nominee)
Hawaii	Miss R. Heyum
W. Samoa	Miss M. Te'o

Resolved that the meeting be called Standing Conference of Pacific Librarians (SCOPAL)

C. Second meeting on National and Regional Bibliography (1979)

Proposed that:

1. The second meeting of National and Regional Bibliography be held in Port Moresby in June/July, 1979

Chairman of Scopal - Mr. L. Baker
Convenor - Sir John Yocklunn

3. The purpose of the second meeting should be to:

   a) Review progress on recommendations of the first meeting
   b) Further improve national bibliography activities
   c) Further develop regional bibliographic activities.

INTERNATIONAL RESOURCE SHARING: ASIA AND AUSTRALASIA - A NEW ZEALAND VIEW

MISS MARY RONNIE, National Librarian, National Library of New Zealand.

The National Library of New Zealand has existed in isolation for too long. The expense of sending delegates to IFLA General Council meetings has discouraged regular attendances at these and consequently made personal contacts between related interests haphazard at best.

During the last few years at least one representative of the National Library of New Zealand has been involved in international conferences in Europe, and Canada, and last year in Fiji, as well as attending the meetings of the Library Association of Australia. There has been, in consequence, a freeing up of relationships and activities involving various levels of expertise within our services, and an ease of exchange of knowledge in the process of planning new policies for our own future development.

In this general field, for example, much useful data has been exchanged about services to the blind, and physically handicapped; hospital library services; automation programmes for library management, as well as for documents control. In specific fields strong links have been formed with IFLA centres for international bibliographical control and exchange of materials.

In this Asian/Oceania region there is inevitably an even stronger community of interest, and a range of problems common to our particular situation which is quite outside the experience of European librarians who form a very strong influence on the current work of IFLA. Most of us are faced, for instance, with developing a national literature in areas of very small market demand, or where there is not a single dominant language, or only a very short history of written rather than oral traditions.

1 National Bibliographies

For each of us the accumulation and description of our national literature is part of the establishment of our national identity, both within our own boundaries and to the rest of the world. It is an important part of the free flow of information between countries that a current record of the nation's publications should be made and that there should be a descriptive method common to all so that we can understand and identify those publications which we wish to acquire.

The conference held in Fiji last year was productive of ideas for mutual assistance in establishing national bibliography programmes. With the development of publications in this field we will be able to exchange published materials more freely, and increase the knowledge and understanding between the people of the region at every level of knowledge and for every kind of topic.

2 Exchange of Publications

If easier contacts can be made between countries there will be greater facilities for arranging exchange agreements, particularly of the official publications. New Zealand has some such agreements, but they tend to be with English-speaking or European countries. Nevertheless there are courses on Asian topics at several New Zealand universities and the National Library of New Zealand is more than willing to act as negotiating agent for interchange of useful documents, relevant to these courses, or for general public use.

3 Interchange of Subject Information in Periodicals

We are almost bored with the statement that the control of information is one of our most difficult tasks. Networks are being formed at district national and international levels to try to cope with the problem, and particularly the control of the information on periodical publications. A high proportion of the interest lies in recent material, and experts are increasingly interested in parallel thinking in other countries, especially in those places with increasing trading relationships with New Zealand.

Every country tends to have areas of strong expertise, and one of our commitments for the future might well be to identify these areas of expertise, to further identify regional needs for experts, and to organise exchanges of published information for mutual benefit. For some this may be a manual system, for some the organisation of input into co-operative data bases in computer storage.

4 Staff Exchanges

It is my firm conviction that no real understanding of each other's problems, resources and national characteristics can be gained without periods of experience in each other's territories. To have truly international attitudes, it is necessary to appreciate that there is richness in the variety of national characteristics. Librarianship is developing as an international profession but it can only do so adequately if the need for adaption to local needs is fully appreciated.

We have tended to think in terms of bibliographical control, stock organisation and access to information as the main areas of international interest. But in this International Year of the Child it might be worth emphasising the value of mutual discussions on children's librarianship and literature and service to schools. In fact interchanges of staff at every level can only enrich the services of libraries in any country.

5 Library Education

There would be great value for the formulation of educational programmes, particularly specialist work, in the compilation of a directory of library schools and their courses. There are varied needs in every country but many of us have small populations and cannot hope to set up courses for such specialist areas as archives management, conservation or microfilming programmes. At present we find out only by chance encounter what courses are available in particular universities and colleges. Many of these could well serve students from our areas if the scope and length of courses were known, and staff development plans might be made accordingly.

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA AND INTERNATIONAL RESOURCE SHARING

SIR JOHN YOCKLUNN, National Librarian, National Library of Papua New Guinea.

Introduction

The National Library of Papua New Guinea began operations in 1978, although planning has been proceeding since 1975, when Cabinet approved the establishment of a National Library Service.

The National Library building, Australia's gift to mark the Independence of Papua New Guinea in September 1975, was opened in October 1978.

Films and books, which were selected and acquired for us by the National Library of Australia, also formed part of the gift.

Substantial donations of books were also received from the British, U.S., Canadian and Japanese Governments, and books are now being selected for us by the National Library of New Zealand as a gift from the New Zealand Government.

The staff, funds and collections of a number of existing units in Papua New Guinea (the Public Library Service, the School Libraries Office, the Film Library, and the National Archives) have been transferred to the National Library Service from various Departments.

Recruitment to the newly created National Library positions will take place shortly, and collections are being built up as rapidly as possible.

New Guineana

The collection of New Guinea publications from the Public Library Service forms the nucleus of the National collection of material published in Papua New Guinea and material about New Guinea, and other publications are being transferred from various Government libraries.

Statutory deposit legislation (which will designate the National Library and the two University libraries as "deposit" libraries for publications published in the country) has been drafted and will be introduced into the National Parliament shortly.

This legislation will also require films, sound recordings and other non-book material to be deposited with the National Library.

The National Film Library, a component of the National Library Service, already holds archival copies of many films about Papua New Guinea. As funds permit the gaps are being filled, and we are encouraging (with some success) the deposit of this type of material with the National Library.

The National Archives, another component of the National Library Service, is responsible for collecting and conserving the nation's public records. Manuscripts and private archives, however, are being collected by the University of Papua New Guinea.

Bibliographic Services

The national bibliography of monographs and the Index to Papua New Guinea Periodicals are at present published by the University of Papua New Guinea, while the National Union List of Serials is published by the University of Technology. It is envisaged that the National Library will eventually assume responsibility for these bibliographies. In the short term, when staff are available, we hope to publish a monthly or quarterly checklist of publications, since the national bibliography is nearly two years behind schedule, and therefore becomes mainly a record of items published, rather than a selection or cataloguing tool.

The National Library will also become the centre for the national contribution to Universal Bibliographic Control (UBC) and related programmes such as the International Serials Data System (ISDS) and the International Standard Book Number (ISBN) scheme.

Inter-Library Lending

The two universities, which are the major borrowers from overseas, deal directly with foreign libraries. The volume of loans from overseas is relatively small, but at a later stage it may be advantageous for the National Library to act as the national centre for foreign borrowing.

However, the National Library would be happy to act as the national agent for foreign requests for loan of material from Papua New Guinea (i.e. locating the material and referring the request to the appropriate institution, or providing the material or photocopy if held in the National Library).

Clearing Centre for Duplicates

The National Library will act as the national clearing centre for disposal of duplicates and discarded material within Papua New Guinea, and for the disposal to overseas libraries of Papua New Guinean publications not required by our own libraries.

International Exchanges

The National Library plans to enter into a number of exchange agreements with other national libraries and national exchange agencies (normally we would only have Government publications for exchange, but in some cases we could purchase non-Government and commercially published material for exchange).

Such exchanges will not cut across existing exchanges which our libraries and institutions are conducting. Indeed, as we would be primarily interested in Government to Government arrangements (except for the exchange of the National Library's own publications), we would be pleased to receive exchange requests from foreign countries, which we would refer to the appropriate library or Department.

National Collections

A National Reference Collection has been established, and steps are being taken to acquire the necessary materials to support a central reference service, and to enable the National Library as act as a library of last resort for reference information, particularly by collecting material in subject areas not covered by other libraries. Already the National Library has the best collections of Australiana and Papua New Guinean Government publications.

The National Film Collection, based on the films formerly held by the Office of Information, has been supplemented by films acquired as part of the Independence gift and by deposit of films formerly held by the American Embassy and the British High Commission. Usuage of this collection is very heavy, and films are lent to institutions all over the country. Films about Papua New Guinea are particularly popular, and apart from archival copies, the Film Library holds lending copies of many of these films. We would be pleased to lend such films to other countries through their national libraries or appropriate national agencies.

Library Planning and Coordination

The National Librarian has been directed by the National Planning Committee, Papua New Guinea's top planning body (consisting of the most senior ministers and civil servants), to prepare a national plan for libraries.

The Government's concern is twofold: the rationalisation of libraries and the best use of scarce resources on the one hand, and the provision of library services to rural areas on the other.

At the same time, such a plan would enable the National Library to indicate action which needs to be taken to remedy deficiencies in the national information system.

The National Library in addition to its operational role, has a general co-ordinating function in relation to all Government libraries. Because public and school libraries in the provinces are now the responsibility of the 19 Provincial Governments, the National Library has an important part to play in giving professional advice and assistance, and in encouraging provinces to improve standards of library service.

The two University libraries are outside the Government information and library system, and it is therefore vital for the National Library to liaise and cooperate with these major libraries.

The Scope for International Cooperation

The National Library is firmly committed to international resource sharing, and will attempt to play an active part in this field.

In particular, when suitable staff have been recruited, the National Library will take steps to improve the recording and exchange of information on Papua New Guinea library materials, the arrangements for making available such materials by loan or photocopy, and the retrieval of information in such materials.

We will be happy to facilitate the international exchange of publications, and help foreign libraries, particularly national libraries, to acquire Papua New Guinean material.

The National Library will participate in UNISIST programmes and other international programmes concerned with information. It is likely that the National Library will act as the "national focal point" for such programmes.

We are interested in cooperation at the international and regional levels in the field of library and archive manpower planning, education and training.

Above all, we see the great need for regional cooperation, and will fully support bilateral and multilateral arrangements for such cooperation.

With the meeting on National and Regional Bibliography in Suva in 1978, and the establishment of the Standing Conference of Pacific Librarians at this meeting, a beginning has been made on regional cooperation in the Pacific. The National Library is involved in a number of cooperative projects, including the publication of a Union List of Pacific Materials later this year.

The proposed COMLA Specialist Workshop on the Training of Intermediate Library Staff to be held in Suva in October this year should give opportunities for cooperation in the training field.

It is understood that UNESCO is interested in a project involving school libraries in the Pacific, and our National Library would, of course, take part in this.

We wish also to take part in cooperative schemes in the Asian region. A modest beginning has been made with participation in an IFLA regional project for a register of library and information personnel in the Asian region who would be available as consultants and advisers.

Conclusion

While the National Library of Papua New Guine must devote most of its energies and limited resources to the difficult task of improving and developing library and information resources in Papua New Guinea, we pledge our support to international resource sharing, and particularly to regional cooperation. Though necessarily, as a small and underdeveloped country, Papua New Guinea is likely to receive more than it gives in most cases under such arrangements, nevertheless there are countries with even less developed library systems than ours in our region which we can assist through resource sharing.

RESOURCE SHARING IN SCANDINAVIAN LIBRARIES

PROF. ESKO HÄKLI, Librarian, Helsinki University Library, National Library of Finland.

Resource sharing is normally understood to mean an effort to increase the efficiency of the available funds. Although the idea behind resource sharing can be formulated easily and in a very simple way, it has proved rather difficult to implement. Scandinavian libraries have practised resource sharing both on the national and on the Scandinavian level, and experienced both success and a great deal of difficulty.

Resource sharing consists of at least two basic elements, the sharing of responsibilities and the sharing of funds. It can be exercised on a national or on an international level, voluntarily, or governed by official regulations. Below is a discussion primarily of the experiences gained on the Scandinavian level, i.e. the international or regional level mainly discussed.

The Scandia Plan

The best known Scandinavian cooperation project in this field is undoubtedly the Scandia Plan, which has been described fairly often in the library literature. (1) The plan was launched in 1956, when the availability of foreign literature was still a great problem as a result of the Second World War: funds for libraries were insufficient, international interlending was more the exception than the rule, photocopying facilities were underdeveloped. And these are only a few of the background factors.

The first prerequisite for the Scandia Plan was the willingness of the participating libraries to make their collections available to other Scandinavian libraries. From the very beginning interlending was considered an essential element of the plan. This was

x) Prof. Esko Häkli is the Librarian of the Helsinki University Library, the National Library of Finland. Since 1977 he has also been the Chairman of the Nordic Council for Scientific Information and Research Libraries (NORDINFO).

described in the new statutes of the plan in 1973 as follow:

> The aim of the Scandia Plan is to develop rational and economic forms of cooperation in the field of literature acquisition and related information service as well as in the field of library interlending among the research libraries in the Nordic countries. (2)

The Scandia Plan did not include the participating countries'own publications. These were made available to all other countries without special arrangements. The Scandia Plan did not therefore directly anticipate the UAP concept of IFLA, but it did represent important preparation for a new way of thinking. Consequently, the universal availability of publications within Scandinavia is nowadays taken for granted. Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden constitute a single, coherent, perhaps even a unique area for library interlending. The boundaries between the countries have no significance. Any library in any of these countries is allowed to approach any other library for loans and photocopies. There are no strict rules for the circulation of the requests. Neither are there any national centres through which requests have to be channelled. Requests are sent directly to the appropriate library without unnecessary intermediaries.

The most vital question at the beginning was, however, how to create resources which could be shared. The problem was tackled by voluntary means and without additional funds. Thus, in addition to its success, the Scandia Plan experienced all the difficulties a decentralized international acquisition scheme will have to face. All previous acquisition schemes of a similar type had been functioning within a single country and supported by special additional funds.

To be able to understand the principles of the Scandia Plan a distinction has to be made between the availability of the collections and the responsibility for purchasing literature according to the principles accepted. Every time the Scandia Plan has been described special emphasis has been laid on the fact that the plan did not include the most used literature which libraries were expected to purchase for local needs. This is true, but it is also true that this kind of literature has been automatically

available to other libraries. The availability of the collections has not been limited to the categories of literature mentioned in the accepted acquisition schemes. The schemes deal with the additional responsibilities of the participating libraries.

Because cooperation has been voluntary and no additional funds were at hand, the aim of the division of responsibilities was to avoid unnecessary duplication of literature which was not frequently requested but which had a high scholarly value. The most natural solution was that this kind of additional literature be purchased by libraries which already had good collections of the most used literature on that specific subject. This approach was useful especially in the field of the arts and humanities with numerous specialized subjects, still using books to a large extent. Concentration of a certain kind of literature in Scandinavian libraries also reduced the need for union catalogues.

The ambitions of the founders of the Scandia Plan actually extended beyond the mere organization of the resources existing at that time. The aim was to increase the number of titles acquired by the Scandinavian libraries by adding new categories of literature to the acquisition scheme as well. In this way the efforts included, for instance, literature from African countries, the Near and Far East, Oceania, South America, etc. Most of this literature was acquired in exchange.

In some subject fields, for instance in the natural sciences, medicine, engineering, etc., the task was somewhat easier. The bulk of scholarly publications in those fields consists of periodicals, which enable a much easier division of responsibilities than is the case with monographs. It is also easier to anticipate the needs of the users. Thus one well-defined category of periodicals consisted of those covered by the most important abstracting journals. The cooperation between libraries went so far that they regularly checked the lists of abstracted periodicals and made sure that every title was available in some of the participating libraries. A net of special committees was established to guarantee the continuity.

In addition to acquisitions the Scandia Plan paid special attention to the development of location tools. In addition to national union catalogues, a great variety of Nordic union lists of periodicals was published. These lists have played an important role in making the totality of the Scandinavian collections available within the region. Besides the subject-oriented union lists a union catalogue of periodicals in the Nordic libraries comprising not only the titles but also the holdings of individual libraries has been under discussion since the end of the 1950s.

The efforts described above are already to some extent part of Nordic library history, although the experience gained is frequently utilized. Circumstances began to change rapidly by the end of the 1960s. Indexing and abstracting services were automated and began to provide scholars with references much more efficiently than before. This increased the demand for literature. The photocopying facilities also underwent a rapid development, and as a third feature the explosive expansion of scholarly publishing made it absolutely hopeless even to try to keep abreast of the growing volume of publication. Consequently, the aim of the Scandia Plan had to be revised.

Since 1960 the Scandinavian countries have jointly maintained an agency called the Scandinavian Documentation Center, SCANDOC in Washington D.C., USA. It was established by a semiofficial Scandinavian organization NORDFORSK, the Scandinavian Council for Applied Research, which has also been responsible for the finances of the Center. The main task of SCANDOC is to trace and acquire documents which are difficult or impossible to obtain through normal trade channels. It also establishes contact between American and Scandinavian institutions to permit a direct exchange of material. The SCANDOC operation has proved very effective and it supplements the traditional means of acquiring documents in a most efficent way.

The present situation

The voluntary cooperation among the Scandinavian libraries, which now includes Iceland, too, has continued for several decades. The cooperation has been well established and well known. When the

Nordic Cultural Agreement was signed in 1971 and a special Nordic cultural budget was created, it was self-evident that cooperation between the libraries would become the responsibility of the bodies created to carry out the new intergovernmental agreement.

The first Nordic intergovernmental organization in the library field was NORDDOK, the Nordic Council for Scientific Information, established in 1970 by the Nordic Ministers of Industry, and then transferred to the jurisdiction of the Nordic Council of Ministers of Culture. The terms of reference of NORDDOK included only scientific and technical information. In order to create better conditions for cooperation between research libraries, an unofficial body was established by the official national councils. This body, the NFBS, De nordiska forskningsbibliotekens samarbetskommittée, was established in 1972. In order to promote two large projects already under way, the Scandia Plan and the Nordic Union Catalogue of Periodicals (NOSP), the body received grants from the Nordic Council of Ministers.

The ties between libraries and information services had, however, grown closer, especially as the information centres in a majority of cases were departments of research libraries. To reflect this development and to improve cooperation, the Nordic Council of Ministers decided on a new organization, which became operational at the beginning of 1977. The new organization bears the name Nordiska samarbetsorganet för vetenskaplig information (NORDINFO) [the Nordic Council for Scientific Information and Research Libraries]. (3)

The council's aims are to
- follow developments in the Nordic countries and abroad
- promote and coordinate the communication of recorded information on a national, Nordic and international basis
- initiate and carry out studies and projects of developing methods and systems, and of education
- provide national and Nordic organizations with advice and information

The composition of NORDINFO reflects not only the interests of the research libraries and information services but those of the users as well. The organization has a fairly strong secretariat, at present located in Finland. The total budget of NORDINFO for 1979 is the equivalent of US $ 430,000. NORDINFO is first of all a development organization, and it operates with the help of clear-cut short-term projects with practical aims. Theoretical library and information science is not supported.

The working programme of NORDINFO has been divided into four subsections:

- policy development and coordination
- collection building, incl. development of location services and delivery of documents by means of library interlending
- databases and networks
- education

The Scandia Plan and the Nordic Union Catalogue of Periodicals, which NORDINFO inherited from the earlier bodies, at the moment form the main part of subsection two. This subsection comprises most of the elements which have now been mentioned in connection with the UAP. On the practical level efforts are at present concentrated on two main topics, the development of location tools in general, and improving the mechanisms of interlending.

At the moment it is not quite clear how cooperation in collection building in the Nordic countries should be continued. In order to create a solid basis for decision-making, the Scandia Plan, even before NORDINFO was established, inaugurated a large investigation programme analysing different factors having an impact on purchasing, economy of collection management, costs of interlending versus buying, etc. Many factors can be analyzed and described, but many more of the factors influencing library policy are beyond the reach of the libraries. Some examples may serve as illustrations:

- fluctuations on the book market: in earlier years book production increased more rapidly than the funds of the libraries; now the prices have gone up and many libraries cannot buy specialised monographs any more; also, a great number of subscriptions for

periodicals has been cancelled. In addition to the price development, fluctuations in exchange rates have played a big role. If libraries participating in a decentralized acquisitions scheme are not able to fulfil their responsibilities, the scheme eventually loses its meaning. This is perhaps the essential point critized by those advocating a powerful centralized lending library: decentralized acquisitions schemes do not add resources, and they need much more coordination than a single lending library, it is said

- the diminishing role of exchange: more and more university, academy learned society bublications etc., are being published by trade publishers and are consequently not available for exchange purposes. It does not make sense to buy books published in your own country and exchange them. It has been argued that exchange as a channel of acquisitions is rather problematic; it brings material which is of no interest to the users, it is more difficult than the use of a bookshop, the material one is sending will not be used at all, and in any case it comes to places where somebody interested in it cannot find it; to make sure that the publications are read and to avoid unnecessary distribution many institutions prefer to use trade publishers
- the impact of national arrangements: to be able to develop a decentralized acquisitions scheme between countries national development should take into account the needs of the scheme. This is not always the case and here most of the problems of the Scandia Plan can be found. The bulk of the research libraries in the Nordic countries are university libraries and thus part of the organization and economy of the universities.This type of library often receives funds only to provide services for its own university. In practice, however, the libraries are public institutions and open to everybody. This is a remarkable difference compared with many other countries, where university libraries are accessible only to the university community. To avoid disadvantageous development, the national authorities must become aware of regional responsibilities and allocate funds for these purposes
- the lack of regional regulations which could guarantee continuity and a common policy in collection building and in decisions

regulating the availability of national collections to other countries. So far this has not been a problem in the Nordic countries, which constitute a homogeneous region with a common history with many intergovernmental agreements and with a long tradition of close cooperation. Consequently, it would be unthinkable that some of the countries might restrict the availability of their collections. But this kind of security is rather a passive method of promoting a common acquisitions policy. It requires no active measures on the part of the governments. At the moment the problem in the Nordic countries is how to get the governments more actively engaged in developing a reasonable degree of regional self-sufficiency in the availability of publications. In any case it is evident that the Scandinavian countries can influence decisions on the availability of literature only if the literature is acquired by some Scandinavian library difficulties in creating common regional institutions. Although there are already some Nordic institutions, for instance of Asian Studies, the Scandinavian Institute of African Studies, the Nordic Institute of Vulcanology etc., there are no Nordic libraries in the real sense of the word. It would perhaps be sensible to set up a Nordic Lending Library as well as a Nordic Depository Library for less-used material. This has proved impossible to be put into practice, at least so far. Therefore cooperation will continue to be a puzzle played by individual libraries. It would be interesting to learn whether regional institutions in other parts of the world are considered possible solutions.

Evaluation of cooperation and new trends connected with it

The above discussion has shown that there are obvious difficulties in getting a decentralized acquisitions scheme to function as one would wish. It is also difficult to describe how the plan works, especially now, when the whole acquisitions section of the cooperation programme is subject to investigations and is in need of new orientation. But it is not mere pious belief to say that the scheme has been functioning fairly well. If we take a look at the interlending statistics, we can get a more precise picture of the situation. Although the interlending statistics are to some

extent heterogeneous, it is quite evident that the Nordic libraries have been able to satisfy the demand for literature mainly within the Nordic area. Approximately half of the requests which cannot be satisfied from the national collections can be carried out by libraries in the other Scandinavian countries. In relation to the total population of the Nordic countries and to the intensity of higher education and research, Nordic libraries have not burdened libraries in other countries too heavily. The use of services from outside the Nordic countries has been increasing to a certain extent, thanks especially to the BLLD, but the volume of loans is still rather limited. The demand has concentrated mainly on photocopies, which are properly paid for. (4)

One clear advantage of Nordic cooperation is that Nordic libraries lend each other all kinds of literature, independently of the country of origin. Many other countries generally limit loans abroad to literature published in their own country. The second advantage is that the delivery times for loans within the Nordic countries are quite obviously shorter than those from other countries. This does not, of course, necessarily apply to the delivery of photocopies. Furthermore, it can be said that interlending traffic within the Nordic countries also has several economic and psychological advantages. It is not without significance that most of the librarians in charge of interlending know each other, and this causes the whole to run smoothly.

It is obvious that a centralized lending service might be more efficient and easier to run than the present network of numerous libraries in various Nordic countries. We admit these advantages, but at the same time we are faced with realities which do not allow us to establish that kind of organization. It is sensible to plan a centralized lending service only if the money and the political will needed are available. In the Nordic countries this is not the case, although on the national level several possibilities are being studied at the moment, at least in Finland, which would enable us to centralize the interlending services step by step. We must recognize that even a small improvement is an improvement and better than no improvement at all.

Voluntary cooperation has made the Nordic libraries grow together and function as a network. The intensive cooperation, which has lasted for decades, has also prepared ground for more official arrangements.

Although NORDINFO, the newly created intergovernmental council, is a fairly young organization, it has enjoyed all the advantages that voluntary cooperation has created. It has been able to avoid the difficulties typical of many new international enterprises of a similar nature. One piece of wisdom colleagues in the Nordic countries have learnt shows us how necessary a spontaneous response from the field is for an official organization. It is better to enjoy positive voluntary support than mistrust. Organizations themselves do nothing; there must always be people behind them who perform the tasks properly and in due time. To put it briefly, without voluntary cooperation we would have no cooperation at all today, either official or unofficial.

As to its present efforts, NORDINFO gives financial aid towards supporting and promoting the development of library and information services. A great part of the funds is spent on developing computerized information retrieval systems.

NORDFORSK, which was mentioned earlier, has set up a data transmission network, SCANNET, dedicated to documentation and information services. The network has been operational already for more than two years now. A great number of databases are connected with it. One of the goals of the development work financed by NORDINFO is the integration of reference retrieval systems with location services. Both components are still developed separately, but the goal has been clearly defined. The user has to be able to get references and the location of the corresponding documents during the same search. In addition users should not have to approach different institutions for references and for documents. Both forms of services should be provided for by a single institution, with which the user is familiar.

It is not possible here to describe the development of databases in the Scandinavian countries; it would go beyond the topic of this paper. But the development of location tools does deserve attention. Automation of library systems is being carried out in all countries represented in NORDINFO. The ultimate goal is to develop on-line-based systems which can communicate with each other, transmit bibliographical data from one system to another, allow searches independent of the location of the database and the user, transfer interlending

requests from library to library and from country to country. We have not yet got that far, although much has already been done. For instance, the automated cataloguing system of the Danish Technical Library (Danmarks Tekniske Bibliotek), ALIS, has been connected to SCANNET and can be searched by all libraries in the Scandinavian countries having appropriate facilities. Discussions are also going on to connect the large Swedish national database of the library cataloguing system LIBRIS to SCANNET. At the same time other systems are under development. There are location systems for conference proceedings, report literature, etc. The largest single system, however, is the Nordic Union Catalogue of Periodicals, NOSP, which by the end of 1978 produced its first catalogues on microfiche. The basic idea of the NOSP is to create a Nordic computerized union catalogue of periodicals which is based on corresponding national union catalogues and which consequently does not need a heavy central organization. This union catalogue would be regularly updated by tapes sent from individual national union catalogues or, as an alternative, be updated directly by on-line operations. In the near future the existing database will be searchable on line via SCANNET.

At the moment the NOSP project, the planning staff of which is located at Helsinki University Library, is using the ISDS General File as its basis. We are happy to report efficient cooperation between the NOSP project and the ISDS Centre in Paris. The NOSP is probably the first existing system utilizing the machine readable file of the ISDS, in any case the first regional system doing it. This procedure saves a very great deal of time and also guarantees the compatibility of the bibliographical data within the system. Individual countries and libraries need only to add their library codes and holdings to the ISSN codes and to send them on magnetic tape to the NOSP Centre. This procedure also aids those participating countries which so far do not have a computerized national union catalogue. They can create it by using the data included in the NOSP file. Only Finland and Norway had computerized catalogues of their own before the project was started. The data of these catalogues are about to be transferred to the NOSP database.

The NOSP database is increasing rapidly and it will soon be the basic register from which all Nordic union lists and catalogues of periodicals in various fields are produced. The NOSP system is an important tool and it shows that resource sharing on a regional level is both possible and profitable.

NORDINFO also exercises other kinds od resource sharing, which perhaps are not traditionally considered as such. In different development projects, education, participation in international coperation, etc., the Nordic countries are also trying to share resources other than books: manpower and knowledge. There is a clear trend within NORDINFO not to judge applications for grants from the immediate national interest but to try to foresee the long-term results of the project and to benefit this way. In consequence, every effort is made to engage the best Nordic experts for the projects. Each Nordic country has, of course, its national interests and needs, but fortunately they do not play as big a role as they do in many other international organizations. One of the most important conditions for making resource sharing between different countries a success is without doubt the need to judge things on a longer perspective than in terms of present needs, ambitions and interests.

Concluding remarks

The main emphasis of the Nordic efforts in resource sharing is at present laid on the development of
- reference services
- location tools and
- interlending procedures

Activities of research libraries and information and documentation services are regarded as a single operational field to an increasing extent. The most modern techniques with remote use of computerized system through a data transmission network are employed. The most problematic area is still collection building within the framework of decentralized cooperative acquisitions scheme. While studying possible new ways of cooperation much attention is being paid to improving the availability of the existing collections.

The Nordic countries have a great interest in the UAP Programme of IFLA, because they are to a very large extent dependent on

research carried out in other countries. Although individual domestic titles can be more frequently requested than foreign titles, the bulk of literature including books, periodicals, reports etc., is foreign. When the Nordic countries announce their interest in the UAP programme, they also express a wish that the concept of the UAP might be permissive rather than restrictive. Although no country can be compelled to lend other than publications from their own country, this should, however, not become a commonly accepted rule which a country could use as an excuse for not lending foreign literature to libraries abroad. If the UAP Concept is understood in this restrictive way, it will in many cases mean regression instead of progress.

In order to further the implementation of the UAP, the Nordic countries are developing their library systems towards a situation where

- their own collections are good enough to satisfy most of the demand for literature and to make them readily available
- other countries have easy access to literature published in the Nordic countries; this objective is also important to each Nordic country itself

One of the most important tasks in developing regional or national collections is to recognize the internal logic of the demand for literature in different fields. This is one of those questions which should still be studied in connection with the UAP. The UAP can mean different things in different fields. There is material which is heavily used at the moment, but which will be out of date, and obsolete in a couple of years. The need for this kind of literature can be satisfied in a quite different way from the need for literature which will also maintain its scholarly value in the years to come. Society today tries to look after the interests of future generations and to ensure a worthwile life for them. In the same way national information policy has to realize its responsibility for the access to all information that future generations will need. We cannot only use the criteria of the present demand when building up our collections. We have to make sure that the material published and sold out in our time is kept available to future users without needing to borrow it every time from overseas libraries. In other words, the effect of today's decisions on the availability of publications in subsequent

decades must also be considered.

For as long as the UAP is not a reality, every country has to decide to what extent it can rely upon foreign services. Problems relating to this area are much discussed within the Scandia Plan. Factors affecting decisions include the following:

- the existence of reliable foreign services offering a sufficient satisfaction rate and simple enough to use
- the distance of one's country from the foreign services still plays an unbelievably large part in document delivery and affects both the speed of the services and the costs, expecially for interlibrary loans
- with what certainty foreign services will be available in the long run and what the conditions of use will be if for instance political conditions change
- the type of material suitable to interlending and photocopying plays a noteworthy role because articles with hundreds of pages cannot easily be photocopied even if the copyright legislation would allow it.

It seems that material with a short life can more easily and more safely be borrowed or purchased as photocopies from foreign services than the material which should be on hand for decades or centuries. Therefore, libraries will, in the long run, be the only reasonable solution for document delivery. This statement is not necessarily accepted by everybody. Because the new reference retrieval systems have created a totally new intensity of demand for documents, a gap between demand and supply exists at present in many countries. It has been suggested that this gap be filled by creating new document delivery services independent of the libraries. Opinions of this kind are a great challenge to libraries and librarians to improve their services and to create new ones. It is not reasonable to spend public funds on duplicating existing services in a way which will be both costly and unsatisfactory. Libraries have now their day of visitation. We must be able to respond to the challenge and make our services more efficient. In many countries and regions this can be achieved only by sharing existing resources, by making cooperation smoother and, by using modern techniques not only to increase demand but also to support the supply of material in demand.

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INTERNATIONAL LIBRARY LENDING

DR LUCIANA MANCUSI, Director, National Library of Rome

The problems of disposing of the maximum possible of documentation without wasting money and work on acquiring duplicate copies of books and other material is becoming increasingly important for libraries all over the world.

In my opinion a great difference exists between books and other printed materials (newspapers, magazines, etc.) as to the use and purposes: it is easy enough to spread and/or exchange photocopies (or information) of the latter, whilst the loan of books within a country, or worse still, between countries, causes great difficulties unless the library can dispose of at least another copy of the books for immediate use of its readers.

Of course these considerations do not intend to deny the advantage of a cooperation, which would and could be of great economic value.

In my experience I would emphasize the importance of disposing in all the libraries of the catalogues of other libraries printed, in cards automated, etc.) which make it possible to readers to know, where a book or a document is located.

I suppose that the number and variety of languages in your area of interest, make it extremely difficult to solve the problem. Perhaps a first step could be made if, at the beginning, only the national libraries of different countries could act as exclusive agencies to cope with the problem: in such way at least the matters of national interest would be correctly considered.

From such initial general asset could subsequently spread a net of wider and more detailed information and exchange.

Obviously the National Library of Rome will be happy to be at disposal for all information on its organization, and help you may think of any use.

SCANDANAVIAN LIBRARIANSHIP - A STUDY IN CO-OPERATION

MR GERHARD MUNTHE, Director, Royal University Library, Oslo.

A contribution to the annual conference of The Canadian Association of Research Libraries.
Calgary, Alberta, Canada June 14.th 1978.

Mr. President
Ladies and Gentlemen
Dear Colleagues.

I am very much honoured by getting the invitation to attend the annual meeting of the Canadian Association of Research Libraries. I am delightet to be with you, to be able to meet friends, and to meet people whom I have not met before. I certainly shall take back with me useful knowlegde, new information and an overwhelming impression of friendship and kindness. My very best thanks to all of you.

On the other hand I am not very happy to have to speak to you this morning, because I feel I can add very little to what you already know about the problems you have had to face in recent years and which you certainly will have to deal with in the years to come.

My contribution here to-day will be to describe to you the situation in the Scandinavian countries, to deal with the Scandinavian library cooperation and lastly to talk about some major problems with which we will have to live, die or come to terms with in the next future years.

I am not going to speak to you about "Recent progress in Scandinavia and the rest of Europe" as announced in your programme, although this title seems most stimulating, but somewhat surprising to a Scandinavian speaker. I can assure you that never before in the history of European libraries the Scandinavian scene was regarded as being of central importance.

Before I start I can assure you that I am not going to tell you how to do things, to give you any recommendations, to do any sort of marketing of ideas, solutions or ideology. I have no magic key to the problems. We have numerous problems at home, som are big, fascinating and thought - provoking, others are small, uinspiring and evidently not to be solved.

I am going simply to tell you what we do and how we do it in Scandinavia. I want to talk openly about our problems, our difficulties, our shortcommings, our defeats, but also about some successful achievements. I leave it to you to find out what is of any use to Canadian libraries. But may be that my few comments to-day will turn up some subjects for discussion and conversation.

I should like to remind you once more of the wise and appropriate words from the Final Report of the National Library Review Team: <u>The services provided by national libraries in other countries act as useful sources of ideas and experience, but they cannot be simply copied whithout examining the degreee to which they apply to the Canadian situation.</u>

They are very relevant this morning.

As colleague I am representing the Scandinavian countries and The Scandinavian Council for Scientific Information and Research Libraries.

I myself come from Norway, one of the smallest of all the European nations, 4 million people scattered along the North Atlantic coastline on an area considerably smaller than that of The Province of New Foundland and Labrador, a nation which half a century ago had to work hard for its living, but recently has got part of affluence and has acquired a high standard of living, seen from a European point of view, but also a country which has not yet had time and money to put her academic institutions and research libraries in proper order.

This is my approach to the subject I am going to talk about this morning:

> Scandinavian librarianship - a study in cooperation.

The geographical situation is: some 22 mill. people inhabit an area somewhat less than The Province of Quebec. The historical background can be summarized in this way: Living in the nothern outskifts of Europe the inhabitants were not brought into the influence of European culture before the climax of the middle ages. It was always a long way from theScandinavian peninsula to the cultural sources in The Middle East, Rome and Paris. The first universities in the Scandinavian countries were Uppsala, Sweden and Copenhagen, Denmark, both founded ab. 1480, next came Åbo, Finland in 1640, Lund, Sweden in 1666 and Oslo, Norway 1811. In all these four countries they had to centralize their collections and efforts. A Danish statesman of the 18th. century gave the advice: Concentrate your strenght as you have only a limited amount of resources.
Even to-day this historical background explains very much the state of affairs. The major research library collections in Scandinavia were to be found in the universities. They were developed in Sweden and Denmark in the 17. and 18th. centuries, in Finland and Norway in the 19. and 20th. centuries.

Sweden and Denmark got as the Scandinavian mainlands by far the greatest and best collections. The libraries in Uppsala and Copenhagen were large and important libraries about 1800 - also seen from a European point of view. Sweden and Denmark had entered the scene of international research in the 17. and 18th. centuries, Finland and Norway remained outside for still a couple of centries.

Libraries came to the Scandinavian countries in three stages:

1. The scholarly, universal library, usually the national, or royal, libraries, the university libraries or the libraries of learned societies. They were influenced by the continental, mostly German tradition, and continued to be so even till the 1930-ties. German was the professional language of the Scandinavian research librarian.

2. The libraries for the natural sciences and technology came after 1850 and largely in our own century. They were more functional, and the Anglo-American outlook was more evident.

3. The public library came to Scandinavia after 1890. Scandinavian immigrants to the United States of America brought back to their own countries when they visited them the idea of the American public library. They became ardent supporters of the Dewey gospel. Now here were the librarians in the early decades of this century more devoted to the American public library ideas than they were in Norway

In the Scandinavian research libraries, however, the German influence was dominating even til 1940. The librarians were scholars, they were specialists on the material kept in their collections, not on the organizing and processing. They took their pride in developing their own systems, and they were not at all inclined to use other, ready-made systems.

The Anglo-American influence came later together with the swift approach of the natural sciences, the technology and a number of other applied sciences. It was international, open-minded and underlined the utilisation of the library collections. It stressed the importance of standardizations, accepted decimal classification and tried to promote library cooperation. No library was regarded as an independent island of its own.

Scandinavian library cooperation started early in the 19th. century. It began in a very informal way based on personal friendship. The librarians exchanged publications, provided bibliographical informations and frequently donated valuable book collections to each other. They did so because they had to cross the border if they wanted to take part in further professional development, to get inspiration and in serveral cases also to meet colleagues most close at hand devoted to the same special task.

Scandinavian library cooperation was promoted and it benefited very much from some basic historical facts. It has been easy to cooperate because

we speak the same language
- have the same historical background
- have the same political system and the same ideals.

To a great extent we also deal very much with the same material. Important parts of the national collections were to be found in other Scandinavian libraries outside the country itself. The University Library in Copenhagen was for more than 300 years at the same university library for Norway, and the Royal Library in Denmark acted as national library for Norway in some 150 years.

All these facts made it comparatively easy to establish a Scandinavian library cooperation.

It started in an informal way in last century. In our own century some of the milestones along the road have been:

1914-, a common scholarly journal:
Nordisk tidskrift för bok- ock biblioteks-väsen

1926-, Regular general meetings for librarians.

1945-, frequent meetings of the directors of the major Scandinavian research libraries.

1947-, The Nordic association of research librarians established, biennial general meetings and annual round table conferences.

1957-, Handbook of library science.
60.

This period was characterized by private, non-governmental undertakings. No governmental authority or money were put into them.

The next period started in the 1950-ties when the Scandia-Plan was launched, officially in 1956 on the 8th Scandinavian library meeting. In the first years the organization was based on a voluntary and unpaid secretariate. Later on the governments gave it their authorization and funds.

In 1970 The Nordic Council for Documentation was founded on the encouraging request of the OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development). The Council was established in order to promote documentation and information services within the natural sciences and technology. It also covered some of the social sciences, but left the humanities and the gereral research libraries outside.

The separation proved to be most unfortunate to the general information service. As a provisional and supplementary, emergency measure The Nordic Committee on Research Library Cooperation was organized. It comprised two representatives from each country, and they usually were the directors of the national library and of one of the most important research libraries.

In 1976 these two bodies merged into The Nordic Council for Scientific Information and Research Libraries (abbrev. NORDINFO). It comprises all aspects of library, documentation and information services, and it has certainly proved to be a very great advantage to have them all brought toghter in one organization. The council is granted money from the governments, a permanent secretariate has been established, and the members, three from each country have been nominated by the governments. They represents libraries, documentation services and the users of all these services.

The idea of an improved and institutionalized library cooperation did not come to the Scandinavian countries for reasons unknown to other parts of the world. The Scandinavian countries have had to face the same problems as most other European and North American libraries have done:

- The ever-growing flow of information
- The increased number of students
- The extended research activity
- The numerous new and desentralized institutions for education and research
- The request for a greater number of documents by all categories of users.

In addition to these challenges the Scandinavian libraries also were aware that they had fallen behind in the years after the second world war. In order to reconstruct the countries after the war, little was spent on library development in the first 10 or 15 years. Even when university education and research got their increase in the late 1950-ties, the research libraries suffered serverly from inadequate grants.

The insufficient acquisition of foreign literature was a major concern to all Scandinavian library directors. Foreign material was the foundation for nearly every research and educational activity. The director of the Uppsala University Library - the greatest research library i Sweden - once told that the reorganizer of the library, king Gustatus Adolphus in 1621 bestowed an annual grant of 200 golden dollars upon the library in order to enable the library to buy every book of interest. The director added that he thought that the library was far better off in those days than he himself was 330 years later when he was able to spend not more some 400 000 Swedish crowns on the same undertaking. The inadequate grants and the immense obligations placed upon the research libraries encouraged a number of librarians to outline a new plan for joint acquisitions of foreign - non-Scandinavian - literary material in order to be able to obtain as much material as possible within every field of interest. All the major Scandinavian libraries joined this plan, named The Scandia-Plan. The plan was an attempt to allocate the responsibility for the acquisition of literature partly according to specific subjects, partly according to regional or linguistic limits.
To illustrate how the plan works let me mention some few examples: Denmark took care of hymnology, history of mission and the history of the Jews. Finland specialized in Slavic and Baltic subjects, Sweden developed systematic theology, Indology, Arabic, Armenian and Turkish linguistics. Norway took up the obligation to provide literature dealing with Artic and Antarctic geography, Celtic languages and history.

Let me underline the fact that it is the marginal - the little-used - m aterial which is being dealt with in this way. The central works used frequently by a great number of readers are of course acquired by serveral libraries in all the Scandinavian countries.

The idea was not new. Already before the first world war - in 1910 - the Prussian libraries have established the

so-called Sondersammelungsgebiete and during the Second World War The United States had organized their Farmington-Plan.

The Scandia-Plan started as a voluntary cooperation. There were no money available and no secretariate. The only authority the participating libraries had to rely upon was their own agreements. Step by step this plan got the recognition of the governmental administration, it got money and a secretary who was able to carry out some research work and to take care of the management. At present it is the responsibility of The Nordic Council for Scientific Information and Research Libraries to carry on the work. It soon became obvious that the Scandia-Plan could not confine its activity purely to acquisition. It also had to take up interlibrary lending, union catalogues, bibliographical information and reproduction procedure.

Has The Scandia-Plan been a success or a feilure ? That question can not be answered with a plain yes og no. In most cases you will have to make so many comments and reservations that the ultimate yes or no has lost all its significance.

Scandinavian librarians sometimes somewhat to their surprise find that The Scandia-Plan has got a higher appreciation abroad than at home. The plan has evidently been a much greater success outside the countries involved than within the domestic scene.

The explanation is close at hand. The plan is in principle very simple, rational and, seen from an international point of view, very encouraging: Five independent countries have voluntarily taken up the problem to solve their acquisition problems - a problem which has always been very difficult. They have done it in a most friendly way, and they have at least made some substantial achievements.

Seen from the inside the situation is more somplicated, and there are many colleagues who are rather sceptical about the results. They find the plan time-consuming, hard to administer and control and regard the achievements too small to justify the efforts which have been spent. Let us try to get a survey of the situation. The Scandia-Plan was launched at a time when the economic situation was quite different from what it is to-day. Money for libraries were scarce. At that time we had no efficient interlibrary lending system. It was in the days before The British Lending Library. The reproduction service was still not fully developed. In order to administer the plan in a more efficient way a number of sub-committees were put up for different subjects and different fields of literature. We got sub-committees for parliamentary libraries, for agriculture, medicine, technology, only to mention a few of them. Those subsommittees proved all to be very efficient and they are able to point at substantial achievements within acquisition but especially regarding the bibliographical information. In some cases they were also carrying on a cooperation policy which had been working for a long time.

It is the general, universal libraries which have had to face the great problems, especially in the humanities and the social sciences. It has been comparatively easy to allocate certain subjects to a library, if the subjects could be defined by language or regional limits. Far worse has it been to cut out a single subject within philosophy, psychology or history of literature. For this reason it is not very surprising to discover that it is the librarians from the university libraries who have been the least enthusiastic about the plan.

It soon became evident that a joint asquisition policy could not be carried out in strict isolation. It also became necessary to improve Scandinavian interlending service.

Here the results have been convincing. Far the greatest amount of interlibrary loans from abroad to any Scandinavian library is delivered from other Scandinavian libraries. The service is swift and simple.
The principle has been: Service, and no pay.

Certainly some libraries have had to carry a more heavy burden than other libraries. But till now it has been accepted by all libraries involved that they are willing to place their material to the disposal of all the Scandinavian libraries on the same terms as they do in their own country. It is the principle of free access, not the balance of quantity which is the point.

For some time the establishment of a Scandinavian lending library has been discussed, and the plan will be considered by The Nordic Council for Scientific Information and Research Libraries. The report on the subject will no doubt conclude that there will be better ways of improving Scandinavian library service than by putting up a new central lending library. But the rejection will at the same time have to increase the efforts of improving the interlending system. To secure free access to documents without establishing a central lending library involves a permanent development of an interlending system. It is not a thing you have, it is a piece of work which you have to carry out all the time.

Another supplement to the joint acquisition policy have been the numerous Scandinavian union catalogues. The Scandia-Plan has stimulated new prosjects and has supported the publishing of union catalogues within law, agriculture, meass-communication etc. At present the central project is a union catalogue on non-Scandinavian periodicals. This catalogue will be an on-line catalogue on the Scandinavian network SCANNET.

In addition to the achievements the plan has accomplished we have also got some other, extra benefits. The Scandia-Plan

has brought people together, stimulated professional life and encouraged research and development activity. A greater number of colleagues have met, seen other libraries and got acquainted with procedures different from their own. They have become used to see their own library in international context.

The Scandia-Plan was the first programme for Scandinavian library cooperation which got the governmental recognition expressed by governmental money. The plan has also ever since then been one of the most important parts of the Scandinavian cooperation system. It has however during the last two decades been supplemented by serveral other projects, to-day all organized and administred by the Nordic Council for Scientific Information and Research Libraries.

The activity of The Nordic Council for Scientific Information and Research to-day may be divided into four different sections:

1. Planning and coordination
2. Acquisition of material
3. Databases and network
4. Education and training.

The planning and coordination will have to be carried out as a permanent undertaking in order to secure and utilize recent international achievements and adopt them to Scandinavian environments. For small countries with limited economic resources it is essential to be in close contact with on-going international research and development. The council is a most necessary link between the national research library authorities in the individual countries. The council also feels it as its obligation to carry out research and development projects either by its own staff and by its own members or by the experts from the outside.

In order to provide an improved and swift access to international research documents The Nordic Council is at present carrying out a comprehensive study of the shortcomings regard-

ing collections in the Scandinavian research libraries. It is quite clear that the joint Scandinavian acquisition of foreign literature - even if the grants provided for the purpose were increasing - will be diminishing compared with the number of international publications. In the future we will not be able to acquire the same percentage of the world's literary output. As Scandinavian interlending is far more easy to us than European, it is important to secure the greatest amount possible and the most careful selection. At the same time the disposal of little-used material has to be considered. In many cases it is sufficient that these documents - which for some reason or other have been received by serveral libraries - are kept in only one institution. This measure will rationalize the storage and reduce the cost of accomodation.

Another decisive part of the acquisition and availability programme is to create new means for the localization of documents. Numerous union catalogues have been established, and some of them have been in operation for a good many years. They are to-day among our most used professional tools, as the union catalogues for periodicals within a certain field like List Jur (Law), List Agr. (Agriculture), or as union catalogues for special type of publications like the union catalogue for conference papers. The most important project in the years to come is a general union catalogue for all foreign periodicals kept in the Scandinavian libraries. The catalogue - with the acronyme NOSP - will be established as an on-line service on the Scandinavian network known as SCANNET. The catalogue will be an improved extension of the existing Norwegian catalogue for foreign periodicals. This catalogue lists all foreign periodicals in Norwegian libraries. The catalogue is updated and issued on microcard every third month. A new printed edition is available every second year. The enterprise has been successful, and is on of the most used tools in Norwegian libraries.

In order to improve the material standard of library collection NORDINFO also has planned the publication of a handbook on conservation of all kind of library documents, as paper,

binding, maps, slides, records etc.

As all librarians expect that information in the future to a growing extent will be found as databases not only for bibliographical references, but also for facts and full-texts, the council has found it apropriate to undertake a survey of all existing databases in the Nordic countries and try to evaluate their qualities. The council also has tried to encourage and promote the establishing of Nordic databases where they have valuable contributions to add to international knowlegde. It has been the intention to avoid all unnecessary duplications, and not put up any Nordic database where existing foreign service could do the job. Grants from the council have supported databases for shipbuilding, construction and building industry, education, governmental reports and documents, only to mention some specimens. To make the communication between the great number of databases more easy, the council has also supported a termininological project. The national terminological authorities in the five countries have started a cooperation programme in order to avoid the misunderstanding of certain terms related to information services. The publication of an authorized handbook for the construction of databases has also been given high priority.

Education and training will always be a matter of great importance, especially in a period of rapid development and significant achievements. There is a permanent need for updating and supplementing knowlegde. The national schools of librarianship must carry out the teaching and training in the central subjects and for the great number of students. For the specialists and researchers, however, there exist a need which cannot be met at home. The Nordic Council has for this reason supported advanced courses for experienced librarians within different fields, as utilization of certain databases and training in on-line services.

The council has also tried to stimulate the ordinary library education by supporting courses for the teaching staff of the library schools and by contributions to professional handbooks.

It is of cource too early to give any final assesment of the activities carried out by The Nordic Council for Scientific Information and Research Libraries as it has only been in operation for 1½ year. Nevertheless, organized library cooperation has existed in the Scandinavian countries for more than 60 years, and in informal ways also in the preceeding century. For this reason it is fair to evaluate the results. There have of course been successes and there have been great mistakes and miscalculations, also undisputed failures have turned up. All the same there can in my opinion be no doubt that the Scandinavian library cooperation has been rewarding and advantageous. It has broadened the outlook, raised the professional standard and increased the capacities of the services. It has also made library work more pleasant.

We often try to characterize our own times by telling that we live in an ever-changing world, quite contrary to the situation as it was some 30 years ago, when everything was permanent and settled. Of course, this statement is to a certain extent correct. Nevertheless, few things are completly new and without predecessors. The book itself has changed very little since the days of Gütenberg. The Norwegian-Danish author Ludvig Holberg some 250 years ago recommended inter-library lending and 170 years ago the oldest researsh library in Norway got its collections catalogued in Copenhagen according to the principle of central cataloging.
Our basic functions are also unchanged:

- to provide the books
- to serve the public

We still keep the vision of the ideal library, the library -

or rather the library system - which is able to provide the user with any document in the moment he wants it. It is - to quote some well-known words about the ideal library - , the library as we wish it were, as it might have been, and as it cannot be.

NATIONAL LIBRARIES AND THE PROBLEM OF RESOURCE SHARING ON THE EXAMPLE OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF POLAND

DR WITOLD STANKIEWICZ, Director, National Library of Poland.

The development of libraries in contemporary world and the growth of their role in scientific, cultural and educational structure caused a number of changes in the majority of countries. One of them is the problem of library cooperation in the field of acquiring books and division of competences among them on the national and international scale. Although the subject has not been worked out in a more synthetic form of scientific monograph it is more often noticed by librarians.

This problem is noticed and viewed differently in library periodicals of many countries, reports, legal acts and in national programmes of libraries development. The international aspects of it can be investigated on the basis of subjects tackled at library conferences and meetings.

Participation of national libraries in these cooperation programmes seems to be a separate matter. It is viewed differently and depends on the place of national library within the libraries structure of a given state.

It seems to be quite obvious to suggest a thesis that the need of coordination of acquiring books as well as defining profiles of their acquisition for separate libraries is not neglected. Not only economic reasons speak for it but also a bigger probability of acquiring documents difficult to obtain. Proceedings and Reprints However it should be stressed that economic principles of resource sharing should not stand for the main aim which we want to achieve that is quick supply of necessary documents to the readers. So before division of competences as far as collecting of books is concerned one should test the needs of users and adapt them to the results of the analysis.

It is of special importance for the organization of international cooperation. Such a wide scale of cooperation makes it difficult to transmit information and to make documents easy to obtain.

Resource sharing has a great importance in the realization of UAP (Universal Availability of Publications) under condition that quick information about the location of books and their effective availability is possible.

There is a need for information containing various types of details, namely:(a) reference books about libraries and the specialization of their collections,(b) union catalogues of periodicals, books and other documents, universal or subject, (c) lists of contents of periodicals indexes, with information about title's location.

For a quick availability of collections not only a well organized lending is indispensable but also such equipment in libraries as xeroxes and devices for making microfishes. I take the floor in this matter because it is necessary for the development of international cooperation to unify the obligating rules and also technical equipment.

The problem of attitude of national libraries towards resource sharing, on the national and international scope, is complicated. The subject was tackled by Mr Line at the conference of National Libraries Directors at the IFLA session in Strbske Pleso, Tschechoslovakia, 1978
He stated that it needed careful study and that some of national libraries supervised national acquisition programmes.

I think that while considering that problem one should take into account the main task of national libraries and all the national library and information system in the country.

The realization of the main task of every national library that is acquisition of literature of one's own country, compiling the national bibliography makes it quite obvious that these libraries act as the main centers of the national literature and information about it. This is the function they should not resign of even when a good international cooperation exists.

Participation of a national library in organizing library holdings first of all of foreign literature in the country can take various forms:(a) One of them is defining of the main principles of politics in this field and suggestions for solutions of problems. This way of understanding the function of a national library seems to be the most sensible one, particularly in the countries where the net of libraries and libraries with big traditions, rich and precious collections exist and where functions central and department library administration,(b) Providing of central library services such as union catalogues, central cataloguing, center of interlibrary lending.(c)Settlement of resour-

ce sharing principles and management of a system. This solution can be the right one first of all in the developing countries, where the library and information system is just being formed.

I would also like to inform you about the way of solving these problems in Poland and in socialist countries. The National Library in Warsaw collects home literature, foreign Polonica and publishes national bibliography in several different series. It also collects foreign literature - first of all from the field of social sciences and humanities, bibliology and also a wide range of reference works and in connection with this sort of publications it acts as a universal informaterium.
The National Library also takes care of works of national culture which are stored in libraries all over the country. These works are microfilmed and they start forming central collection of the most precious polonica. Recently the National Library has taken up an initiative, together with the two biggest libraries in the country, which is called the National Libraries' Resources. The works concerning this program have just been started. They aim at establishing national literature union catalogues in home libraries, and next taking care of it and also help in keeping the right conditions of storage and so on. The National Library's contribution to the establishment and functioning of home resources is expressed in several types of activities. First of all it is defining directions of Polish librarianship development. It was expressed in establishing programme of such development. A local system of scientific, technical and organizational information in which scientific libraries - obliged to collect resources from various fields - play the most important role. The National Library also conducts central works concerning simplification of using resources of all libraries in Poland. Union catalogues of periodicals and foreign books, registration of Polish libraries, publication of their registers belong to these works.

We can also observe the development of cooperation among socialist countries' libraries. The national libraries' cooperation has been started several years ago with the meeting of directions and it reshaped into cooperation of subject groups and brings results, which are important for the use of collections, among others there are being prepared reference publications which characterize

collections of socialist countries' libraries, and works on union catalogues and principles of lending in various countries. There also develops cooperation among special libraries e.g. economic, agricultural.

Presenting this problem on the example of the National Library in Poland I wanted to make it possible for the participants of your international conference to have a comparative view of it, being quite convinced about the informative value of comparative studies.